

George Darsie
Anstruther
ADDRESSES,

DEVOTIONAL

A N D

SACRAMENTAL:

B Y S O M E

EMINENT MINISTERS,

RESIDING IN LONDON.

The Whole either taken down in Short Hand, or
furnished by the Authors themselves.

——— the consecrated hour
Of man, in audience with the DEITY.

Young.

THE SECOND EDITION.

L O N D O N:

Printed for W. LOWNDES, No. 77, Fleet Street.

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ADDRESSES

DEVOTIONAL

AND

SACRAMENTAL:

BY

EMINENT MINISTERS.

PREPARED BY J. J. LONDON.

The whole cloth bound in sheep skin, or
furnished by the Author's themselves.

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Printed by W. Bowerman, No. 1, St. Paul's Church-yard.

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ADDRESSES,

Devotional and Sacramental:

By EMINENT MINISTERS.

[PRICE TWO SHILLINGS SEWED.]

Extract from the Monthly Review, for October,
1785.

“ These Compositions are such as reflect no disho-
nor upon their Authors. The language is, in gene-
ral, good ; they are humble and devotional ; and,
on the whole, properly adapted to the nature and
design of public worship.”

George Parsie,
Austruther 11 May 1833

THE contents of this little volume are wholly original, and consist of those effusions of a warm, a sentimental, and rational devotion, which, under the direction of taste and genius, are generally beautiful and affecting.

THIS collection consists of two sorts of addresses, those to the Deity in the form of prayer in behalf of all mankind, and uttered by the minister,
who

who on such occasions is the leader of the worship, and the mouth of the audience : and those to Christians consisting of exhortations chiefly occasioned by an administration of the holy sacrament.

WHATEVER merit they may possess (and they are obviously the compositions of various authors) it is entirely owing to the editor that they have been rescued from oblivion, being chiefly unstudied and extempore : He flatters himself therefore, that no apology need be made for any trifling inaccuracy of expression, or irregularity of method : it was impossible to prevent such imperfections as are inseparable

nable from every species of instantaneous speaking, without exhibiting them in a form that must have altogether changed and disguised their nature.

THE editor thinks these addresses are equally remote from the coldness of formality on the one hand, and the familiarity of fanaticism on the other, and he hopes they may prove useful as a directory, not only to serious and rational persons among the laity, but also to those young gentlemen who are engaged in the arduous and important employment of teaching others.

MANY of these addresses, particularly those at the sacrament, were
taken

taken from the mouth of a refined and elegant minister, whose masterly eloquence was an ornament to his profession; neither he nor his friends will feel any inquietude from a publication, which, calculated as it is to do good, consists only of what must otherwise have been lost.

ANOTHER preacher of much celebrity and merit, will not, it is hoped, be offended with the insertion of a few of his animated and elegant effusions, to increase the beauty and variety of this collection.

Two addresses were also inclosed to the editor by a reverend friend whose compositions will always be a valuable
addition

addition to the labours of ingenuity and piety.

It may be an inconvenience to some, but will be a sensible pleasure to others, that the perusal of these papers must revive the remembrance of ministers, who were so much beloved as not to be recollected without sensibility and affection.

THESE, however, are only a specimen of a great variety which are in the possession of the editor, and he now offers them to the public, merely as an earnest of more, should these prove as acceptable as they must be useful.

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ADDRESSES

Devotional and Sacramental.

ADDRESS I.

MORNING.

VOUCHSAFE, thou Supreme of Beings, to behold us thy servants on earth, surrounded as we are with frailty, and subject to sin; vouchsafe to behold us with a propitious, with a paternal, and even with an approving eye; while, with some sincerity and some zeal, we would join the hallelujahs of saints and of seraphims that encompass thy throne in heaven, mingling our best ardors with their sublimer transports,

A

and

and emulating as we can their virtues, their graces, and their attainments: happy in the hope, that one day we shall resemble them more nearly, and more delightfully participate in their sacred entertainments, and in their celestial avocations!—We worship the attributes of God, all great and amiable, all worthy to win the love, and to command the veneration of thine intellectual offspring! That we are of the number of those whom thou hast endued with reason and designed for immortality, whom thou hast furnished with opportunities for knowing, loving, and obeying thee, the first and greatest of beings, is a consideration that demands all our gratitude, and all our praise; and that we are permitted, nay, invited, in this state of guilt, in which the best of us yet are, to address the seat of the sovereign majesty, the sovereign purity, the sovereign good; is a thought that fills us not only with humility, but with admiration! We rejoice in the privilege, and we would improve it at this moment, with all the delight
and

ADDRESS I. 3

and affection of which we are capable, whilst we esteem it our honor and our joy to join with the best spirits both below and above, in the service of the great, the universal, the everlasting, and the most gracious; the King of Nature, the King of Nations, the King of Saints! We worship with reverence, but we worship with joy at the same time; we would not approach thee on the one hand, with the boldness of presumption, nor on the other, with the terrors of superstition; we would remember that thou art infinitely grand, holy, and mighty, and that at thy tribunal, we must all ere long appear, to receive the final determination of our everlasting state! We acknowledge that we have offended thee times and ways without number; and that, wert thou strict to mark iniquity we could not stand before thee; but we know that thou art gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and that thou so lovedst the world, as to give thy son to die for it: We recollect with unspeakable pleasure, and

humble confidence, that thou art reconciling the world to thyself by him, and that thou art carrying on a design as benevolent as it is wise, and just, and holy, for restoring thy creatures who had fallen from their righteousness and from their happiness, to more than their primæval purity and felicity.

WE contemplate with delight and admiration that divine religion, in which the manifestations of love and grace are set before us : We see in them all the father, the ruler, the friend ! We see righteousness and mercy meet together, peace and truth embracing each other. We thank thee for what our Saviour did, for what he taught, for what he was, for what he suffered, for what he is now doing, in the prosecution of that marvellous plan of redemption, into which even angels bend from their thrones, to pry with unwearied attention : May we ever-more lay to heart the peculiar privileges which we enjoy ; let it not be our condemnation that light is come into the world, and that

ADDRESS I.

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that we loved darkness rather than light; but whilst we bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life, and most of all for the means of grace, and the hopes of glory, through thine inestimable love, displayed in the redemption of the world by Jesus Christ; may our hearts be made so thankful, that we may shew forth thy praise, not with our lips only, but that our lives may be consecrated to thine honor, and employed in thy service; that our hearts may be one whole burnt-offering of love and gratitude, and that it may appear to all around us, that we have indeed been in the school of Jesus, that we are living like the children of God; like the creatures of his bounty, like the subjects of his mercy, like the candidates for a participation of his nature, and of his eternity.

GIVE us to know what we are, and what we ought to be; teach us thyself, teach us what will render us most amiable to thee; bend our wills to thy sacred com-
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mands,

mands, subdue our passions into subserviency to our reason and to our principles, bring our imaginations into captivity to the obedience of Christ: May the love of Jesus sweetly and gently constrain us, give us to delight in his amiable dominion, to esteem his laws not grievous, his yoke easy, and his burthen light; more and more to pant after the graces and virtues, that shone forth in his divinely alluring example, breathing his spirit, and leading his life, according to the measure of imperfect humanity. Sanctify to us, O thou supreme Ruler, all the dispensations of thine unerring providence, however painful and afflicting some of them may be; suffer us not to forget that they are tokens of mercy, and that these dispensations of infallible wisdom, which our short-sighted understandings cannot penetrate, are yet (we have infinite reason to believe) worthy of the perfections of the sovereign Ruler, and that when we come to know even as we are known, these very parts of our lot shall appear to be some of the fairest and
brightest

ADDRESS I.

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brightest administrations of our heavenly Father; "for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son and daughter whom he receiveth:" In the mean while give us by a life of charity, of faith, of integrity, and goodness, to taste more and more those divine consolations of religion, which the sorrows of the world cannot destroy, though sometimes they may impair them: We pray, that thou wouldst enable us, in all our difficult situations, to trust in God; and in all our pleasurable circumstances, still to remember our dependence, to remember the lot of humanity, to remember where we are, whither we are going, that this is not our continuing city of abode, and that it becomes us to seek for one to come, the city of love, purity, and joy everlasting; blessed are they that do thy commandments, for they shall enter through the gates into that city: To do thy commandments, to comply with all thy will, even in the most trying scenes, be this the business of our lives, be this

our meat and drink, our element, our nature and joy ! and when at last, the great Arbiter of our lot shall call us from this state of trial, may we surrender ourselves with a full, with a free, with a chearful acquiescence, into the hands of the great Father of our spirits, hoping through the great Redeemer of the world, that God will accept us, that he will acknowledge our integrity, approve our faith, and our labor of love ; that he will forgive wherein we have failed, and that his gracious eye will smile upon those virtues, and those principles, which he hath inspired ; and that the Saviour of mankind shall say to us, before the congregated universe of saints and angels, well done good and faithful servants, enter ye into the joy of your Lord.

WE would join also our prayers for the whole race of men, for the whole church of Christ, for the propagation of truth and freedom, of righteousness and charity, of faith and universal goodness throughout the world ;

ADDRESS I.

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world; for the preaching of the gospel where it is not, and for its success where it is; for the preservation of our invaluable laws, and precious constitution, that have been handed down to us by our forefathers, at so great an expence of blood and of treasure; may it be preserved to us inviolate, and as this is the most favoured country, may it be the most grateful. May thy blessing descend upon our sovereign King George, the Queen, and their children, and all the royal family; may they be endued with those virtues, and those talents that may dignify and adorn their high station: May men of rank and authority learn to know, in this their day, the things that belong to their situation and duty, and to the welfare of those with whom they have influence, or over whom they have power; may they learn to be good, that they may be truly great. We pray that the whole body of the people may fear God, reverence the laws, love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, live in all godliness

ness and honesty, in all peace and purity, in all due regard for the great things that belong to religion, morality, humanity, and to their several connections in social life; and a due regard may they ever shew, to the duties of their families, to the education of the young, and the improvement of all with whom they converse. May those especially to whom thou hast committed the care of youth, be led to exert the warmest zeal for their edification: May the young remember their Creator, in the days of their youth, and give the old strength to prepare for their last hour, support the weak, deliver the tempted, raise the dejected, enliven the melancholy, lead those that have none to help them to seek their all from God; take care of strangers, and those that have no friends; O merciful Father, befriend them: be the friend of our friends, reward our benefactors, forgive our enemies, and teach us that noble Christian virtue of forgiving them from the heart. We commit ourselves and all we love to thy divine
pro-

protection and inspiration; we put ourselves under the Lord's conduct, it is not in man that walketh through this difficult path of life, to direct his steps, but as guided by that hand, by that unerring graciousness, that leads on this great creation to everlasting order, harmony, and joy.—We doubt not of arriving there at last, where we shall behold thy face in righteousness!—Merciful Father assist us, as we are this day to be engaged in the ordinances of thy house; grant us to lay to heart thy holy word; may it be spoken with fervor, with sincerity and power, with seriousness and affection: May it be impressed upon our hearts, and from thence may it spring up in all the productions of a holy life. Hear us, O Lord, forgive, accept, and bless us; we ask all, and hope all, through the worthy name, and powerful mediation of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, our Master, and our Advocate, with thee, our Father, &c.

ADDRESS II.

EVENING.

WITH thankfulness and gratitude we acknowledge the opportunities which thy providence, O thou good and great Preserver of Men, has presented to us this day, of assembling in thy more immediate presence, to worship, in a public and social manner, him who liveth and reigneth for ever and ever, in whom we live, and move, and have our being, with every blessing, that can render that being comfortable for the present, or hopeful for the future.

WE rejoice in all thy goodness, which thou hast caused to pass before us, but most of all in the prospect of being permitted to live and reign with saints and with seraphims
for

for ever, in the kingdom of eternity, when the fashion of this world is passed away: We would recollect with seriousness and solemnity, this transitory state: One generation passeth after another, and the place where we now are, shall e're long know us no more: As for the life of man it is but a vapor, which appeareth for a little while, and then vanisheth away; but thou art from everlasting to everlasting, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever, without any variableness, or shadow of change; and the eternity of thy nature, of thy perfections, of thy bounty, and of thy grace, is the foundation of our hope of happiness, to every period of our existence! To thy bounty we owe innumerable blessings: We thank thee for all the mercies of this life, by which we are enabled to pass it with any degree of serenity or satisfaction; and indeed, when we look backward on the part which is elapsed, and review the whole series of thy providence towards us, we are filled with admiration and astonishment to consider

der through what distresses and dangers,
and in what deaths we have been preserved!
how often we have been blessed against our
fears, and beyond our hopes! How often
our prayers have been heard, our sorrows
alleviated, and our tears wiped away! How
often thou hast interposed, when the help of
man was in vain! How often in the most
dangerous and distressful moment, the arm
of the Lord hath brought salvation! We
consider ourselves as the monuments of thy
power, to protect, to bless, and to save!
And we are filled with the deeper wonder,
when we call to mind all our unworthiness
and unthankfulness, all our disobedience,
our abuse of the bounties of heaven; and
yet those bounties are renewed to us every
day, and we are now permitted to look for-
ward with hope! Thou hast not dealt with
us according to our sins, nor rewarded us
according to our iniquities; thou hast been
better and kinder than all our words can
express, or all our thoughts conceive:
Nor, has thy goodness been confined to this
life;

life, so frail, so uncertain, and at the best, so unsatisfactory: It is thy grace in Christ Jesus, thy son and our Saviour, the Redeemer of the world, the Conqueror of death, and our Advocate with God the Father; it is that grace which we would most of all celebrate and adore! Bless the Lord, O our souls, and all that is within us, be stirred up to bless and magnify the name of the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath forgiven all our iniquities, and redeemed us from sin, and hath likewise set before us life and immortality, in all their brightest glories and felicities, as a prize which our Saviour hath purchased for all his faithful followers.—For ever blessed be thy mercy through our Mediator, that our views are not limited to the boundaries of time, that they are stretched beyond the barriers of the world, into that new heaven and that new earth wherein dwell righteousness and happiness for evermore; and that amidst all the vanity and vexation that adhere to this condition of life, we are allowed

lowed and encouraged to console ourselves with the prospect of a better, nobler, diviner life beyond the grave, where sin and sorrow shall never enter; where we shall be at rest from all the toils and troubles of mortality; and most of all, and what is best of all, shall be taught to love thee, and our Saviour, and one another, after a nobler measure, and to a nobler purpose than can be reached in this feeble state of humanity: Having this hope in us, give us to purify ourselves even as thou art pure; and while we look back with gratitude and admiration on the one hand, may we look back with sorrow and repentance on the other; while we look forward on the one hand, to that pure and peaceful region, which thou hast opened beyond death, may we on the other hand, resolve, by the grace of our God, that we will never cease our endeavours, till we have secured that blissful kingdom; and where we have done iniquity, that we will do so no more; that we will avoid the weights that have pressed us down,
and

ADDRESS II. 17

and especially the sin that does most easily beset us, and where we have been enabled to do well in any instance, to promote the happiness of others, or of ourselves in any degree, we bless God for the power by which we were thus enabled, and we implore the same assistance for the future, that we may fill up our situations with honor to God, with credit to our religion, and with advantage to those around us ; that we may answer the great purposes of our existence, not to trifle away the precious hours that remain, but to make the rest of life one continued series of sacred preparation for eternity: Teach us thus to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

For what remains, we put ourselves under the protection and direction of the unerring and almighty Ruler and Disposer of all. Sanctify the sorrows of life, sanctify all its joys ; fit us to bear the one with fortitude, and to enjoy the other with moderation : In whatever state we may be teach us

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therein to be content : And, when life draws at last to a close, and all its joys and sorrows are coming quickly to an end, then may we look back with thankfulness for what we have received, and forward, with hope, to those better things which God hath provided for them that love him; and in our last hour save us from terror, and consternation, from surprize and hurry, save us : May we possess our souls in peace, may we rise above mortality, and with humble triumph be able to say through the power of our Saviour, O death ! where is thy sting ? O grave, where is thy victory ?

With ourselves we pray for all mankind, for Christians of all denominations, for our native country, and all its wide and important interests; for thy servant, our soveraign King George, the Queen, and all the royal family; for men of every station, rank and subordination throughout society; for our magistrates and ministers, and all thy people; save thy people, O Lord,
and

and let not thine heritage be brought to confusion, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood; redeemed with an high hand, and an outstretched arm. We pray for the old and the young, the rich and the poor, for those in joy and sorrow, for those that are stripped of the rights and privileges that we enjoy: We pray for all for whom we are taught to pray by nature, by friendship and by Christianity; it is our wish that the universal parent may suit the extent of his goodness in Christ Jesus, to the utmost extent of the wants of mankind; and that we and all men may learn to fear God, to love the Saviour of sinners, to love our duty, to perform it in our different situations, to pass through things temporal with a good conscience, with sobriety, faith, charity, and love, to the things eternal, in the kingdom of God; and in all our works begun, continued, and ended, may we obtain thine acceptance, through Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen.*

ADDRESS III.

M O R N I N G.

WE adore the father and fountain of light and love, from whom every good and every perfect gift cometh, and with whom there is no variableness nor shadow of change! all else is subject to uncertainty and mutability; all besides is insufficient to confer felicity on the immortal mind: Every ray of light, every stream of love that we behold above, around, or below us, is only so far worthy of our esteem and pursuit, as it leads us to thee from whom it cometh, and inclines us to seek happiness from thee, who art its overflowing and everflowing source. We thank thee, O God, that thou hast given these displays of thy self in all thy works, in
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all thy ways, and throughout all thy word, which command at once our veneration and our affection ! Oh permit us under the influence of a diviner power and principle, than any which belong to unassisted, unimproved nature; permit us to breathe after thee, the greatest and best being, and to place our confidence there, where our confidence can never meet disappointment ! We bless thee, thou supreme Disposer of the lots and lives of mankind, for all the dispensations of thy providence, as we admire all the administrations of thy grace : We believe, O Lord, that under thy government, infinite in wisdom, in goodness, and in rectitude, we believe that through thy mercy unbounded, all things shall work together for good, to those who love thee and keep thy commandments, and that though clouds and darkness are often round about thee, yet righteousness and judgment are the habitation of thy throne, and mercy and truth go before thy face for ever ; because love, sovereign, essential, eternal love

is thy nature, as it is thy name ! We confess before thee that we are unworthy of thus approaching a presence so perfect, but at the same time we rejoice that thy majesty is not more awful, than thy mercy is benign, that thou art as good as thou art great, that goodness indeed constitutes thy highest character, and that thy tender mercies are over all thy works ! We have sinned against thee times and ways without number, and yet our transgressions are not so many as are the compassions of God : Thou art the Lord, the Lord merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abundant in goodness, in mercy, and in truth. Thou dost not willingly afflict nor grieve the children of men, thou desirest the happiness of thy family, thou delightest to promote it, and we have been taught to believe that thou never dost promote it with more wisdom or kindness, or more efficaciously, than when thou art pleased to correct thy children ; for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and he scourgeth every son whom he receiveth,
and

and therefore in the midst of all the distresses of humanity, all the dangers and dread that can darken our prospects, or all the sorrows that can in any degree imbitter our pleasures, we will still entertain the delightful persuasion that thou art our father, our friend, our physician; that thou desirest not the death of any sinner, that thou would much rather he should turn to thee and live: These declarations of thy mercy are the subject of our sweetest and sublimest contemplations, in them we rejoice, in them we hope; here is a broad unshaken foundation on which we build our fairest prospects; and whatsoever may happen to us and others of our fellow creatures in their days of trial, we will believe that through the great power of thy son Jesus Christ, through the influence of his divine doctrines, and precepts, and pattern, through the merit of his cross, through the might of his sceptre, and under his inspiring conduct, thou wilt bring many sons and daughters to glory, thou wilt restore the fallen

universe to order, to peace, to harmony, and to happiness immortal, and all thy wondering, loving, adoring subjects shall for ever praise and celebrate that power, wisdom, and goodness, which can suffer no resistance, which from darkness can produce light, and from the deepest disorder bring forth the fairest and most glorious state of things that can enter into the heart of man to conceive, even that life and immortality which are brought to light by the gospel, and that kingdom of eternal perfection and glory, which our blessed Saviour hath founded upon the ruins of the empire of darkness. To this we look forward with hope, a hope that darts beyond the boundaries of mortality! O teach us to triumph in an hour of sorrow, guide through what remains, O thou supporting Arm, O thou divine Saviour never leave us, never forsake us! O thou blessed kingdom of God be our object, our ambition, our attainment for ever! O great eternity, be thou the subject of our most solemn contemplations, and the glorious

ADDRESS III. 25

rious aim of our life, of our study, and of all our conduct! And, at last, may we be put into possession of the crown of glory, that fadeth not away, of the wreath of immortality ever fair and ever flourishing, in the kingdom of God, bestowed upon us by the righteous judge, and not upon us only, but upon all them that look and prepare for his appearing.

THE same good things for time and eternity which we ask for ourselves, we would ask for our brethren of mankind, for our brethren in Christ Jesus, for all those for whom we ought to pray, by whatever tie we are connected, beseeching thee to spread the light of heaven, even the light of the gospel, throughout the habitable earth, and where darkness, ignorance, delusion, disorder and wretchedness prevail, there to send forth those emanations of light, and love, and goodness, those energies of truth and grace, that will restore a fallen world to more than the primeval order and perfection
of

of human nature. Deliver the nations O Lord from the rod of oppression, and the scourge of superstition, deliver these nations from their sins, deliver us from every thing offensive to thy sacred eye, to the holy laws of Jesus, and contrary to the laws and constitution of this happy land. Preserve, direct, prosper, and crown with thy blessing, thy servant our sovereign King George, his royal consort the Queen, and all their children; adorn them with every virtue and grace; lead the King forth before this great people in all the majesty of wisdom, and in all the benignity of goodness; and grant him grace from time to time, to exert his high authority, in the encouragement of those that are good, and for the suppression of vice, irreligion, and immorality of every kind. Send thy reforming Spirit, O Lord, around the world, and restore a dissipated and distracted age to piety and good morals: May the ministers of the gospel promote a general reformation of manners, and themselves, set the fairest and most commanding exam-

ADDRESS III.

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examples. O Lord, our God, look especially on thy servants before thee, who in the morning and in the evening pray unto thee, Lord hear our voice; bless this Christian society with the best blessings of heaven; may we grow in grace, and in the knowledge of thy son Jesus Christ, whom to know is life eternal; and may the rising generation grow up as the lilly, shine in the beauties of holiness, acquire those divine accomplishments, and those blessed habits of piety, and of virtue, that will render them amiable and honourable to those that behold them, as well as be their best security against the temptations of the age: Continue lives to us that are valuable and useful, send forth health, send down thy blessing; O preserve long to us, if it be thy will, our dearest pleasures, and may we remember that all our enjoyments here are uncertain respecting this world, and that nothing can satisfy or comfort us, but thy favor and approbation through Jesus Christ, in whose name we
worship

worship, through whose merits we implore
thy favor, and grace, and in whose words
we call upon thee as Our Father, &c.

ADDRESS

 ADDRESS IV.

EVENING.

FROM this dark vale of tears, polluted with sorrow, and exposed to snares, would we thy servants lift our eyes, lift our hearts on high to Thee, thou best of beings, and firmest of friends, thou most bountiful benefactor, and most tender most skilful physician, thou all-supporting power, thou all-conducting wisdom, thou all-consoling goodness and love: But there is no name, there is no denomination sufficient to express thy glory and graciousness, thou greatest and thou brightest! Nor will we cease to entertain sentiments like these under the heaviest pressure of suffering, or the greatest alarm of fear, persuaded still, that the Lord God omnipotent, omniscient, all good,

all wise, all just, all holy, liveth and reigneth for ever and ever ! When thy ways are in the deep waters, and thy footsteps past finding out with any certainty, yet from those traces of thy perfections, which we behold and contemplate, we will conclude with joy and firmness, that the same Father, Friend and all perfect Ruler, presides throughout the whole; and that those very proceedings of thy providence, which to us appear the most unfathomable, will at a period that is approaching, be found to be the noblest and kindest efforts of thy wisdom and goodness, which are over all ! On this faith which thou hast taught us, which is imparted by our reason, but infinitely more by the revelation of thy Son and our Saviour, on this faith we would build resignation unaltered, and hope unshaken : Forbid most Gracious, most merciful, forbid that ever any hour of despondence, or any moment of terror should withdraw us from so delightful a persuasion, and unfit us for declaring the same joyful acknowledgments.

ADDRESS IV.

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ledgments. We rejoice in the religion of thy Son and our Saviour, which was brought from heaven, to raise man fallen into ignorance, disorder, depravity, distress and danger, to raise him as high as heaven, to raise him by the power of Christ's cross, by the strength of his sceptre, by the sublimity of his doctrines, by the purity of his precepts, by the divinity of his aids, and by the all-sufficiency of his infinite grace, in which we would ever trust and glory: May this trust and glory not only be the language or the feelings of the moment, but may they appear in the happiest effects, and divinest influences on our whole lives; that the life we each of us live in the flesh, may be by the faith of the Son of God, and in a conformity to his holy religion, so that at length to us to die, may be great gain, and at what time, or in what way soever the awful summons shall be sent, it may be received with submission, with serenity, and with hope. Sanctify to us in the mean while both
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the pains and the pleasures of life. and by both may we be led to thy self, and in thee thou sovereign Being, thou Parent of blessedness, thou Perfection of beauty ; in thee may we ever seek and ever find our portion:

Forgive all our past offences, and all the sins of this day, pity all our present frailties, guard us against all future dangers, support us under every affliction felt or feared, guide us by thy good spirit, and bring us to everlasting glory. Bless we pray thee our protestant sovereign, our native country, the British government, and connections ; reform the age, teach the young, support the old, relieve the sick, strengthen the weak, comfort the troubled, and be a friend to those who have no friend to help them ; preserve to us those lives which we love and honor, we cast them and ourselves, and all our friends upon the power that first produced us, and hath preserved us to this hour: O heavenly Father, O gracious Power, teach,
teach

teach us evermore the glorious and the righteous lesson of resignation; give us grace, we pray thee, to cultivate in ourselves all that gratitude, and love, and submission, which we owe to our Saviour, the friend of sinners; may we not be backward to consecrate our lives to his service, who took on him our nature, became a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, ransomed us from death and the grave, ascended into heaven, and through whom we hope to ascend also, and sit on thrones, having been conquerors through him, even as he also overcame, and is sat down with his father on his throne. To him be glory and dominion supreme and eternal, Amen.

ADDRESS V.

MORNING.

O MOST holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was, who art, and who art to come, heaven and earth are full of thy glory, and so is the great and wide sea also, in which are things innumerable, both great and small; all things declare thy glory, and thy majesty, the heavens and all that live therein, the earth and all that exist thereon. Who may be likened unto thee, O Lord! among the gods who is like unto thee, fearful in praises, continually working wonders: With a sacred awe, and solemnity on our spirits, would we desire to enter into thy presence, when we consider who it is we are approaching, who and what we are, how momentous the vast concerns

cerns we have to transact, and how short and uncertain the time we have to transact them in ; may we have grace to serve God acceptably, with reverence and godly fear. We remember that thou art the high and the lofty one, which inhabiteth eternity, whose name is holy, and who dwelleth in the high and holy place ; that thou canst not look upon sin, but with abhorrence and detestation ; and at the same time we recollect with sorrow, that before thee we are sinners, that we have broken thy holy and righteous law, that we have exposed ourselves in innumerable instances to the awful tokens of thy displeasure : When we contemplate our original, which is attended with shameful consequences ; when we reflect upon what our natures are, that they are defiled by sin, we would then with shame and confusion of face smite on our breasts, and come to thee, as sinners to meet a pardon, rejoicing that we have a God to approach unto, who is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abundant in loving kindness, in tender mercy,

goodness and in truth. In the name of Jesus, a name ever dear to heaven, we approach thee; praying, if so be that the thoughts of our hearts, the language of our lips, the conduct of our lives, may be forgiven us. Lord have mercy upon us miserable sinners: enter not into judgment with us, for shouldst thou be strict to mark iniquity; O Lord, who could stand; but for thy name's sake, for thy mercy's sake in Christ Jesus, pardon our iniquity, and restore us to thy forfeited favor: Lift thou up the light of thy reconciled countenance upon us, and it shall put more joy, more gladness into our hearts, than when men of this world find their corn, and wine and oil increased. Enable us to turn with sincere dispositions of mind to that God from whom we have revolted: Increase in us the knowledge of thyself, and of thy dear son Christ Jesus, whom to know is life eternal: May we continually add to our faith, virtue, and every other grace; that these things being in us, and abounding, we may neither be barren

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nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Guide us by thy council, lead us by thy right hand, assist us by thy spirit and grace, till thou hast brought us to thy kingdom of glory. We pray, that all thy providences which we are witnesses to, or objects of, may conspire to improve in us the principles of virtue and real goodness: when under the rod of affliction, like our divine master may we learn obedience: If thou art pleased to beam upon us with the smiles of prosperity, help us to view the hand whence all our blessings come: Fit us for every change, and particularly for that important one, when we must bid adieu to things of time, and enter on an unseen and untried eternity: O that when our friends stand weeping by, and can only testify their love by streaming eyes, and by aching hearts, we may have God for the strength of our hearts, we may have the joyful hope of triumphing over death and the grave, and may believe that if we die we shall be the Lord's. O thou great and uni-

versal parent, who hast made of one blood all nations that dwell on the face of the earth, and hast encouraged us to pray for all our fellow men, thy name would we invoke, thy favor would we ask in behalf of those our brethren, who yet know thee not ; hasten the happy time, when the light of the knowledge of thyself in the person of Jesus Christ, shall be dispersed as far as the rays of the natural sun : We pray that the Indian of the east and the west, the Laplander of the north, and the southern African, may all be induced to bow themselves to the scepter of that king, whom thou hast set upon thy holy hill of Zion. Look upon us in these isles, and bless our dear fellow subjects in the provinces and colonies abroad : May the light of thy presence be near us, may we be blessed in our civil and religious interests, and be the happy people whose God is the Lord. . O that the King of Kings would bless his servant, and our only rightful sovereign, King George ; God save the king, long live the king, may the king live

live for ever, may his throne be established in righteousness, on his head may the crown flourish, and let all his enemies be clothed with shame; teach his senators wisdom, and over-rule all the debates of the great senate of the nation; may they decree righteous laws, and may we have reason to rejoice in their resolutions for the advancement of thine honor, and the promotion of the publick good. May thy ministers be faithful and successful, having many seals added to their ministry. Do thou graciously bless us, and grant us every good thing thou seeest needful for us, since we ask it only in the name, in a dependence on the merits, and a conformity to the directions of our glorious and exalted Redeemer, O thou, Our Father, &c.

ADDRESS.

ADDRESS VI.

EVENING.

VOUCHSAFE, O thou that dwellest between the cherubins, unsearchable in majesty and glory, who humblest thyself to behold the things that are done even in heaven; vouchsafe to humble thyself yet more, by beholding with a pitying eye, thy poor servants prostrate in their spirits at the throne of thine infinite goodness, prostrate there with the profoundest veneration and awe, overwhelmed with a sense of thy transcendent excellence, purity, and power; yet even there, and in that situation, presuming to lift the eye of faith, and the hand of hope to the place where thine honor dwelleth. Indeed when we deeply consider thine unspotted rectitude, and universal dominion, before whom

whom angels and archangels cover their faces with their wings, we are afraid to raise our thoughts in the expectation of mercy as at this day ; but that expectation of mercy thou hast encouraged by the divine displays which thou hast given of thy grace and love to lost mankind, through Jesus Christ thy son and their Saviour : In his name, through his merits, and trusting to his mediation, we thus offer our prayers and our praises, in the spirit of filial and humble confidence, not doubting to find favor and friendship with that power who made us at first, and who alone can make us happy for ever. O cast us not away from thy presence, take not thy holy spirit from thy servants, enter not into judgment with their offences, blot out our transgressions, bury them in everlasting oblivion, that they may not rise up against us to confound us in this world, nor to condemn us in the next : We fly from them all to thy supreme compassion, stretch forth thine almighty and all merciful arm to deliver us from this depth of sin and sorrow into which we
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have plunged ourselves, and to raise us up to that high heaven, and to those holy hills, to that sublime situation of purity and joy, which our Saviour hath purchased for all his followers, and which he is gone before to prepare for their everlasting reception: What shall we render for his divine religion, his miraculous incarnation, his astonishing humiliation, his alluring example, his perfect precepts, his meritorious death, his triumphant resurrection, his illustrious ascension into heaven, his all-sufficient intercession there, and the stupendous prospects of his second coming, of his appearance again the second time, without sin, unto salvation, to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe! Fix our faith on these great doctrines, on that foundation may we build our hope, and with our hope those holy dispositions and habits, those powerful principles of purity, charity, devotion, humility, truth and goodness, that are so strongly recommended, and so beautifully exemplified in his life and conversation.

tion. O that the very same spirit which presided in our divine master, may inspire us, that we may learn of him who was meek and lowly, that like him we may be continually going about doing good; that like him we may delight in the excellent of the earth, whilst we warn them that are out of the way of peace and salvation.

HEAVENLY Father, thou seest the aspirations of our souls, thou hearest the sighings of the imploring heart; pity, assist, accept, and bless us; O bless us, and we shall be blessed indeed, beyond the power of men or demons to disturb our peace. May our affections be set on things above, from whence we may look with a noble disdain upon all that is base and mean in the follies of this world, which passeth away. May our conversation be in heaven, from whence we look for our Saviour; and may our tempers be attuned, and our manners formed into a resemblance of the spirit of the inhabitants of that land, where all is peace and joy;

joy; where friendship and fervor, devotion and holy love have taken up their eternal abode. And if at any time thine eye finds our spirits struggling to ascend to that exalted state, in the midst of all our weaknesses, smile we pray thee upon the arduous endeavour, and sustain the feebleness of nature by a power superior to it. After having run the race that is set before us, looking all the way to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith; after having at last finished our course, may we receive from his applauding hand the crown of righteousness, which he shall give to all his faithful followers! O bright, unfading, and ever flourishing crown! O beauteous morning of the judgment day! O blessed and glorious Redeemer and Judge of the world! O thou eternal lover and father of all! O ye great hopes of an immortal heaven! be ye the favourite objects of our contemplation, and our desire; and in the midst of whatsoever is comfortable in life, delightful in society, attractive in friendship, in the midst of
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of whatever can allure the heart with the best pleasures of this world, we will still look beyond them all, to those better joys, to those higher glories of hereafter, which eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive. But we pray not for ourselves alone; in the presence of the universal Father, Creator, and Benefactor of men, how decent and how delightful, to open the heart in the widest expansions of charity, to the whole family of mankind; O that they may become the family of love and goodness, and happiness, by the propagation of the light and glory of the gospel throughout the world; and where it shines, may it produce by the power of God, the happiest effects on the minds and manners of men.

WE recommend to thy protection this favoured land in which we live, and pray that God will bless his servant and our sovereign King George, in his person, in his family, in his councils, in all the great concerns

cerns of the publick ; enable him to go out and in, before so great a people with wisdom and humanity, with dignity, with a high sense of the fear of God, and what he owes to that exalted situation to which he was ordained, and also with a just discernment of the rights, the laws and the privileges of the people : May a general spirit of reformation prevail : May judges and magistrates, and parents, and teachers, and guardians, and masters of families, and the ministers of the gospel, under all their diversities of names, conspire in their several places to promote the amendment of a degenerate age : Grant us of this society the highest tokens of thine approbation, enable each of us to fulfill the great purposes of our being ; may we cast ourselves with all our cares, and those who are dearest to us, upon that providence which cannot err, upon that goodness which hath never failed us, there be all our confidence and all our hope : Heavenly Father, when we look back on thy past proceedings, and think by what wondrous

wondrous ways thou hast brought us thus far, how thou hast disappointed many a fear, exceeded many a hope, and done for us above all we are able to think ; the splendor, the wisdom, the beauty and love that shine forth in this contemplation, strike us at once with astonishment, and charm us with love ; astonishment at thy wondrous providence, and love for thine infinite grace ! fulfill to thy servants that expectation which from all that is past they are willing to form with regard to all that is future, hear our prayers, assist our endeavours, and accept of our devotion, which we presume to offer through the mediation of Jesus Christ, our only Saviour and Advocate at thy throne, Our Father, &c.

At the SACRAMENT.

I Congratulate myself on the comfort and the joy of meeting you my friends and fellow worshippers, once more in the house of our common Creator, and of our common Saviour, whom we have so often had the pleasure of approaching and of worshipping together ; and of meeting once more at his table, where we have so often enjoyed sacred and sublime communion with the father of our spirits, and the redeemer of our nature : In truth, life with its cares, crosses, perplexities, business, infirmities of mind and body, together with the temptations and trials of both, could not to any reasonable, refined, or sanctified spirit be an object of desire or delight, were it not sweetened and exalted by the exercises of devotion, and by the intercourses of friendship. I pity the

the man who doats upon existence, for the sake of any animal enjoyments, which existence can give, and who does not learn the lesson of valuing them only, as they may be made the means of improving the divine principle within him here, and preparation for the diviner joys of futurity : In this view alone the afflictions of the present life can be rendered light, whilst they work for the children of God and the followers of Jesus, a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

O HAPPY day when we shall arise to those mansions of peace and purity, when we shall wing our flight to that region of sublimity, where our fellowship with God, with his Christ, with his angels, with his saints, shall be compleat, uninterrupted, and everlasting ! In this most delightful hope, that can swell the human heart, let us attend on this most pleasing service in which we can be engaged. How becoming is the duty, how beautiful, how delightful ! God

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be praised for having given us counsel to glory in the cross of Christ: O thou most excellent, benevolent, and divine Jesus, on thee we suspend all our hopes, on thee we fasten all our expectations; from thee we expect eternal life as the gift of the eternal Father, and in this faith we will take the cup of salvation, ascribing to thy name everlasting praise.

BEFORE RECEIVING.

BLESSED through everlasting ages be the God and Father of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who hath given us counsel thus to stand forth in a degenerate, dissipated age, to evince our firm reliance on the Redeemer of the world, for those divine consolations which can only support us living and dying, and for those immortal joys, which are alone adequate to the wants and wishes of our nature and duration; of our nature that was made for religion, and of our duration that
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ADDRESS VI.

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be commensurate to eternity : what thanks shall we return for any inclination thou hast given us towards the best and noblest things, for any sight of the infinite excellence of religion, and the infinite moment of eternal concerns : not unto us, not unto us, in whom dwelleth no good thing, but only to thee be all the praise, from whom descendeth every good and perfect and celestial gift. O give us thy holy spirit in all his most sublime consolations, in every noble influence by which our hearts can be raised above the world, and taught to aspire after what is heavenly and everlasting : and whilst we eat bread and drink wine in token of faith in our Saviour, may we receive from him those communications of light, and life, and fortitude and joy, which will furnish us for what remains of our mortal career, till we finish our course with gladness, and are permitted to lay hold on that crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give to us at that day, and not to us only, but to all them that love

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his appearing. May grace, mercy and peace be upon all such, and upon us through his precious name, and prevailing intercession. *Amen.*

I NOW proceed to break to you the bread of life, and remind you that Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and having given thanks, as has been done in his name, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, take, eat, this is my body broken for you, this do ye in remembrance of me.—And this will we do in the faith of thy gospel, and in the hope of thy salvation, O thou divine and heavenly philanthropist, resolving at this moment to devote ourselves to him who died for us ; thus will we join our fellow communicants in commemorating our common Lord and glorious Mediator ; this is Christ's body broken for us, this we do in remembrance of him who remembered us in our low and lost estate ; for his mercies endure for ever ! O do not forget

us in our last hour ; do not forget us in the rising day, in the awful morning of the day of judgment, remember us in mercy, O Almighty Saviour, for without thee we shall be lost and wretched for ever.

BEHOLD how Jesus loved us ! loved us even to the death, loved us so well as to expire for us on the tree of pain and of shame ; he endured the pain, and despised the shame, he suffered, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God : O what did he not suffer, what language of men and angels can paint his unknown and unutterable agonies ! and did he sustain these for us ? for creatures so undeserving, so hell-deserving, that we might be made something good, something great ! surely our hearts must burn within us whilst we meditate on that face so full of grace, and yet so full of sorrow ; that head so adorable and yet crowned with thorns, those hands so benificent, and yet pierced with nails, those feet for ever going about doing good, and yet torn and fastened to the ac-

curfed tree : nay, his whole life taken from him as it were drop by drop ; but he who was dead is alive, and liveth for evermore, and witnefs fainfs, witnefs angels, we not only celebrate the death but alfo the afcenfion of our Saviour, and we will fhew forth thefe glorious truths till he come again.

WE have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of fins : the blood of Jefus Chrift cleanseth from all fin. We are not redeemed with corruptible things as filver and gold, but with the precious blood of Chrift, as of a lamb without blemifh and without spot : To him that loved us and washed us from our fins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priefts, to God and the Father, be glory and dominion for ever.

AFTER fupper Jefus alfo took the cup, having given thanks, and gave it to his difciples, faying, drink ye all of this, for this is the new testament in my blood fhed for the

the remission of the sins of many. Behold the lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world ! O accept this heart which thou hast conquered, and this soul which thou hast redeemed : all our time, our talents, our opportunities, this service do not disdain, do not spurn ; accept them Blest Redeemer, they are all thy servants can offer : verily, verily, we are thy servants, we glory in the title, it is true honor, it is genuine praise : we are not afraid to avouch Jesus to be our Lord and Saviour, our portion and our all : therefore let us be steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, being assured that our labor shall not be in vain in the Lord.

CONTEMPLATE O our souls, the infinite purity of God ; his infinite mercy, wisdom and love, all displayed here. Contemplate the guilt of sin, the evil of departing from God, the shame to which it exposed the Saviour, the pain which it inflicted on him : here contemplate the infinite importance of

religion and eternity, the glory of those great objects that are set before us in the gospel of Christ: at what a high price all this was obtained, at what a mighty rate all this is bestowed. Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be raised up from sin, from ignorance, from guilt, from corruption, from misery and death, that we should be raised up to life and light, and joy eternal! Blessed Jesus, what wondrous things are these! O teach us ye saints, ye seraphims, some nobler language, in which we may shew forth the infinite merits of our great Redeemer: Language sinks, imagination fails, and the heart of man is too little to contain these marvellous considerations! O blessed heaven, where we shall pry into the mystery of redemption for ever! here we see but darkly, but then we shall see God, and follow the Lamb, whithersoever he shall lead us, by rivers of ever-living and ever-flowing pleasures: May the love of Christ constrain us, may the principles of gratitude inspire us,
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may the life of Jesus be our model, may the death of Jesus be our trust, may the sceptre of Jesus govern us, may the happiness of our Saviour fill us with joy and hope. O what joy to stand on the ruins of a burning world without terror and without dismay! O mighty period of the conflagration of all things, when the earth and all that is therein shall be burnt up, and when the Son shall appear in the glory of his Father, and in his own glory, with all the holy angels! Divine Redeemer, where shall we stand in that day? where shall our fellow-communicants stand? O that we may appear at thy right-hand, that we may stand in great boldness, having washed our robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb. May we stand unshaken and unfounded on the ruins of a dissolving universe:

METHINKS yonder comes he whose promises we embrace, whose doctrines we believe, whose precepts we obey with much weakness, after whose salvation we aspire, and with whose servants we assemble,
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our Saviour, our Brother, our Patron, and our Friend, as well as our Judge, to pass that sentence, well done good and faithful servants, enter ye into the joy of your Lord! Even so, come Lord Jesus, and even so smile on thy servants in that day; and in this beautiful hope may we continue faithful in thy service to our life's end, and at that period may we bear our testimony to the glory of thy name, and to the fullness of thy salvation. To thy name be everlasting praise, *Amen.*

AFTER RECEIVING.

WE rejoice in the thought that whilst we are not able to find words equal to that love, and gratitude, and admiration which we entertain for the grace and the beauty of our Saviour and his gospel, thine eye thou great Omnipotent, which is ten thousand times brighter than the sun, reads those desires within us, which we are not able to express! blessed be the
name

name of God, he does not despise the day of small things, and the humble efforts of thy servants are acceptable in thy sight through the great Redeemer, whose death and life, whose friendship and charity we have now remembered, we trust with hearts not altogether insensible of our obligations. O accept of our offering, not for our sakes, but for the sake of that offering which Jesus made on the cross, for the sake of him who sits at thy right-hand, and is pleading our cause as our brother : this is the foundation of our hope, and may we live one day to climb to those exalted glories, and to become partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light ; one day to follow the Lamb of God whithersoever he goeth, while his gentle hand shall wipe away every tear from our eyes ! O overwhelming consideration ! may this love constrain us, may thy spirit inspire us, may our whole life be a hymn of gratitude and of praise ! may we never esteem any thing too much to do, to hazard, to suffer, never esteem any thing too dear to sacrifice, by
which

which we may shew our gratitude to the great fountain of our happiness : Forgive us, O Lord, wherein we have offended ; in all things we offend, but we rejoice in the thought that our Redeemer liveth for ever, and that we shall be accepted and crowned through his perfect merits and all-prevailing intercession.

WE commend to thee especially those that have now devoted themselves to thy service. Blessed be God for any relish given to any for the greatest and best considerations, for any taste of sacred and divine truths, for any susceptibility for those best impressions : May thy grace preserve us and all thy children, by thy mighty power through faith unto salvation, and after we have passed our days according to the will of God, may we fall asleep with our fathers, and behold thy face in righteousness, through the merits, the alone merits of our alone Saviour, to whom be praises by all on earth and in heaven. *Amen.*

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ADDRESS VII.

M O R N I N G.

VOUCHSAFE, eternal Jehovah, from the height of thy holiness, where thou sittest and reignest from everlasting to everlasting, with a propitious and pitying eye, to behold us the children of the dust, whilst from this vale of mortality we presume to lift our eyes, to lift our hearts to thee, O thou most High ! we adore thee who was and is, and shalt be for evermore the same ; the same in perfection, in felicity, and in glory ; possessed of all those attributes which can command the veneration, or captivate the affection of the intelligent creatures whom thou hast made to know and to adore thee. O thou Supreme of beings accept our adorations this morning, so justly due from
creatures

creatures so deeply indebted as we are, from us the children of the earth : but in the midst of all our frailties, in the midst of all the misery in which we are often involved, blessed be thy benevolent name, we are not left without strength, we are not left without hope : though with regard to this body we must say to the worm thou art our sister, and to the earth thou art our mother ; yet with regard to this mind which stirs within, we are entitled to look up to thee as our father, and to angels and archangels as our kindred and our friends : nor has the hand that formed us confined our views and our felicities to this low, little, transitory scene, but taught us to stretch them nobly into the immense of eternity ; of that eternity for which we feel that we were made : We have alas forfeited our birthright to immortality by departing from our great and good Creator ; by our transgressions we forfeited thy favor, which was forfeiting our all ; and yet, so gracious is thy nature, and so didst thou love the world in the midst of all this degeneracy

racy and distress, that thou didst send thine only begotten and best beloved Son into it, that he might live a glorious, and at the same time an alluring example of all excellence, that he might teach a religion the most exalted and exalting, yet the simplest and the sweetest ; and that he might suffer and die, the just for the unjust, to bring us to God ; and having been delivered for our offences, arise again for our justification, and as he arose, so we know that he ascended to take possession of that high and happy portion which he hath procured for his followers, and to conduct that astonishing scheme of love, and wisdom, and power, and grace, by which the penitent, the believing, and the upright spirits of every age, and of every generation must be brought to everlasting glory.

THESE are the foundations on which thou hast permitted, nay invited us, O most mighty and most merciful, to build the fabrick of our hopes ; to build it as high as heaven : and therefore surrounded as we are with a
thousand

thousand frailties, subjected to a thousand sorrows, guilty of ten thousand failings, we will not despair, but we will entertain the reviving, the elevating expectation of being permitted after a life of sobriety, righteousness, charity and goodness, to enter into that divine state for which we were originally formed : We confess all the offences of our hearts and lives, we confess them with humility and with hope ; we acknowledge too with gratitude and joy all our blessings ; the distresses in which we have been supported, the diseases from which we have been recovered, the dangers in which we have been preserved, the deaths from which we have been often rescued, the thousand and thousand blessings which we have enjoyed, and the nameless consolations which we have tasted, we would recollect with admiration and with praise ! from this experience we would proceed with modest hope to the scenes of suffering that may remain, and upon those of service to which we may be called, we would enter with humble dependence
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on the protection, the power, and the inspiration of that being who hath brought us thus far, and enabled us to fill up with any degree of integrity or approbation, the parts which have hitherto been allotted: thy hand is not shortened that it cannot save, nor thine ear heavy that it cannot hear: to thee we commit ourselves, and all our friends, and all our fellow-creatures, and all our interests, and the interests of the universal church, and of our native country, and the health and family of our King, and the civil and religious concerns of Great Britain, and all her connections: we pray that a distracted age may be made wise, peaceful, virtuous, pious, happy. May the ministers of religion be inspired with zeal, charity, and eloquence: may our magistrates be enabled to exert their authority with wisdom, firmness, fidelity. Direct and prosper the honorable transactions of our merchants and of our tradesmen, the honest labours of our artificers and husbandmen: may the arts of peace flourish: may God's best blessing rest upon this so-

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ciety. May the young be early impressed with the principles of piety, the only guard of all morals, the only parent of true wisdom, and the only nurse of true felicity. The fatherless, the widow, the orphan, the persecuted, the tempted, the dejected, the distracted, the dying, all the sons and daughters of affliction, we commend to the Father of mercies; pity, support, sanctify their sorrows, and deliver them from them in due time. Accept our thanks for all thy goodness to all we love and honor; and may they and we evermore be devoted to thy glory and dignified by thy friendship. Accept these our humble attempts to serve thee and profit one another, in the name and through the mediation of Jesus Christ, our only Saviour and Advocate with thee, Our Father, &c.

ADDRESS

ADDRESS VIII.

EVENING.

O Teach us to pray, for we know not what to ask as we ought; through our ignorance and through our unworthiness we dare not ask with that confidence, which a sense of thy goodness, and a feeling of our necessities should naturally inspire; pour out upon us the spirit of grace, of prayer, and of supplication, and then we shall understand the manners, the tempers, the sentiments, and dispositions with which we ought to address the throne of mercy, and not only understand, but experience and cherish, and express them. O send forth thy light and thy truth, that they may lead us to thy holy hill, and may give us to know and feel that joy which the world cannot give, and which the

world cannot take away, that joy with which strangers do not intermeddle, and which only flows from its native eternal source. Thou art that source of blessing O thou most benevolent Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of all them that believe : may we believe that thou art, and that thou art the rewarder of them that diligently seek thee in every age and in every nation, for with thee there is no respect of persons, thou art the universal parent, thou art the universal judge ; may we pass the time of our sojourning here in thy fear, and in thy presence may we pour out our prayers and our praises till we arrive at that world where we shall be no strangers, nor pilgrims, but be happy and eternal inhabitants, and where instead of feeling the wants and weaknesses, the sins and the sorrows of mortality, we shall be placed at an everlasting distance beyond them, and find ourselves more happy than all our language can now express, and all our imaginations comprehend. Blessed for ever be that being who
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hath begotten us again to this lively hope through the resurrection of thy son from the dead, which we commemorate with gratitude and gladness: grant O heavenly Father that whilst our thanks ascend, our hearts may ascend with them to heaven, to that high and holy place where our mediator dwells, and from whence he has promised to send the holy spirit to those that ask him, and from whence he himself will come again to receive to his blessed bosom of perfection and of peace all his father's followers: O that we may be numbered in that happy and honored band, that the love of Christ may constrain us by a power at once the strongest and the sweetest, to devote ourselves with unalterable attachment and devotion to him, who gave himself for us in this world, that he might give himself to us in the next for ever.

ALL thy perfections displayed in all thy works we adore, the beauty and brightness of nature this day we admire, the benignity,

nity, the majesty, the wisdom, the power of thy providence we revere; but the attractions of thy grace, the allurements of thy love, the manifestations of that transcendant overflowing and everflowing mercy, which streams from the throne of God down upon our fallen world, raise our thoughts, raise our hearts to a pitch of wonder, of rapture, and praise, surpassing all the rest! O accept these testimonies of our souls, to us so delightful, and from us so proper, may they evermore be to thee acceptable: In the midst of all the frailty and folly, all the vanity and vexation which adhere to this state of our existence, may our sighs arise up to that throne where mercy sits, our prayers be heard there, our praises be there received, our services approved from thence, and the consolations which we want sent down from time to time in that proportion, which thy providence shall please to appoint, in the different situations and circumstances in which we are. A joy without sorrow we
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dare not ask, health without sickness we must not hope, pleasure without pain is not compatible with the lot of humanity, a sanctity unstained, a heart perfect before God we can never boast, but thy infinite goodness and grace will not reject the humble adorations of thy servants, whether in pain or pleasure, whether in health or joy, whether in sickness or sorrow, whether amidst the greater failings of our hearts and lives, or the lesser deviations of both, for the principles which thou hast implanted and the affections which thou hast inspired, thou wilt not disdain to accept : but thou wilt pity us as a father pitieth his children, thou wilt carry us through all our cares and all our toils, thou wilt strengthen us in trial, arm us in temptation, make us more than conquerors, and keep us through thy mighty power by faith unto salvation.

WE pray that thine infinite mercy may forgive wherein thy infinite purity may have this day been offended, that thou wilt ac-

cept of our humble acknowledgments for any degree of tranquillity or health which we enjoy, and especially that we are thereby enabled to worship thee at this time, and have been enabled to wait on thee this day in thy temple, and any who have not been able to tread thy courts this day, we pray that they may seek God, wherever they are, in spirit and in truth, and he will be found of them in love and favor ; for thy presence is confined to no place, thy inspiration to no assembly : thou art the father of all, in all, through all, over all, God blessed for ever. May thy presence go with us wherever we go, thy angels protect, thy wisdom conduct, thy favor bless us, and thine image be our ornament and joy : to be like thee, to be happy in thee wherever we are, in whatever situation, be this all our salvation and all our desire : Do thou prosper, direct, sanctify, and bless us with that blessing which maketh rich and which addeth no sorrow, may piety sanctify all our conversation, and unity cement our souls in peace and harmony,

ADDRESS VIII. 73

mony, and in that hope which will exalt us to the desire and to the pursuit of the world above, where we shall be as the Angels of God for ever. All which we humbly ask through Jesus Christ our Almighty advocate with thee, Our Father, &c.

ADDRESS

ADDRESS IX.

M O R N I N G.

O Thou great Father of spirits, Lord God Almighty, just and true are all thy ways, O thou King of saints ; thou art in goodness incomprehensible, eternal, infinite : our weak faculties are lost in the contemplation of thee, we would feel thine inspiring influence, and although we cannot comprehend thine unsearchable greatness, yet we would adore the goodness that we have felt every moment of our existence to the present ; we would hope in the same mercy that called us from non-existence into light, and to the hopes of immortal light. Wherever we turn our eyes, we behold the traces of thy power which is infinite, and of thy goodness which is unbounded and everlasting.

ing: the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth the greatness of his love; all the various tribes of beings proclaim thy munificence, and rest on thine all-supporting providence: but on us the sons of reason, thou hast bestowed thy peculiar favor, given us understanding to explore thy works, and a heart to love thy ways, made us to be the priests of this lower creation, to send up to thee one song of grateful praise: thou hast implanted within us the power of conscience to restrain us from evil, to prompt us to our duty and to our happiness, thou hast sent thine own son to reveal to us the way of life, to purify to himself a peculiar people zealous of good works: We would adore the riches of thy love in our redemption, that thou hast rescued us from the darkness, from the errors of superstition, to worship and acknowledge thee the only true God, that thou hast proclaimed thyself to be a spirit, and to be worshipped only in spirit and in truth; above all we adore thee that thou hast opened to our
view

view the glorious hopes of life immortal, that this is not the whole of our existence, that after we have passed a few revolving years in these scenes of frailty, of blindness, and of disorder, thou hast taught our expectations to look forward to that world where all is durable, real, and substantial, and that when the sun himself shall cease to shine, and when this earth shall flee away from thy presence, the soul of man was made to survive the ruins of the grave, and the wreck of the general conflagration, that it shall join the first-born sons of light in the company of the redeemed, in that hymn of general praise which for ever shall ascend to thy throne. Do thou enable us to anticipate those divine exercises, that our hearts may be here attuned to the inconceivable delights which the souls of the virtuous shall partake of in yonder world, where vice and frailty shall be known no more.

FORBID, O thou searcher of hearts that we should appear before thee with hypocrisy
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and dissimulation, but may our hearts be upright; and when notwithstanding our natural infirmities we would wish to be sincere, whilst we implore thy forgiveness and the protection of thy providence, do thou hear in heaven, thy dwelling-place, and when thou hearest forgive and accept us: May our whole souls be devoted to thee, which is our most reasonable service: We remember that after a few more rising and setting suns, the places that know us now shall know us no more, and we shall all be mingled together in one common earth, where there is no contention, no malice, and no ambition; do thou therefore enable us so to live the life of the righteous, that we may be prepared to die his death, and that our latter end and our future state may be like his: may we acquire those dispositions and those habits of conduct that will evince us to be Christians indeed; may thy mercy be our refuge in the hours of distress, our consolation in the agonies of death, and the foundation of our hope in that awful day when
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thou shalt judge the secrets of our hearts by Jesus Christ. Be our support in sickness and in health, in prosperity and in adversity, in reproach and in applause, in disappointment and in success, in gloom and in cheerfulness. Do thou enable us never to forfeit the joys of an approving conscience, so shall we have the hopes of thy favor, which is better than life, at the hour of our dissolution, when we must part with our favourite projects, with our dearest friends, and with all that we loved in this world, and at that hour when the vanities and delusions of the world shall for ever disappear, do thou grant us thy own presence to enlighten the dark valley and shadow of death ; O support us in that trying moment by thine own consolations, which the world does not know, which the world cannot give, and which even death itself shall not be able to take away ; then may we have an easy transition from this scene of frailty to that world where unbounded light, and life, and love, and joy, and harmony, and friendship, shall
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ADDRESS IX. 79

for ever reign. We give our hearts, all treacherous and deceitful as they are, to thee who hast all hearts in thy hands, that thou mayest govern them and impress them with a lively sense of virtue and of goodness : hear us, O Lord, for his sake, whom thou hearest always, Jesus Christ the righteous, our only Saviour and Redeemer, *Amen.*

ADDRESS

ADDRESS X.

EVENING.

ALMIGHTY Father, by whom we were formed for eternity, and called to immortality, accept of our devoutest thanks for the glorious privileges of our nature and of our religion; blessed be thy name that we were instructed in those grand fundamental and eternal principles of holy living, on which we may be enabled to pass with vigour, with hope, and with joy through things temporal to things eternal: blessed for ever be thy name for the revelation of the Son of God, by which the fairest, the grandest truths are discovered to the eye of reason and of faith; by which the mighty interests of another world are taught to prevail over the little concerns of this, by which

we

we are enabled to subdue the snares of a degenerate age, by the hopes of a glorious immortality, to place our faith, our trust, and our confidence in the living God; to fix our divinest regards on that high and holy portion which presents itself beyond the grave: We thank thee if we have been brought under the power, the command, and the majesty of faith; if our treasure is in heaven, if our conversation and hearts are there, we owe it to the blessed religion of the gospel of thy son: May his precepts be present to our minds, may his pattern be the object of our contemplation, our admiration and love, and may thy friendship strengthen, inspire, and invigorate us, amidst all the opposition arising from the maxims and the manners of a corrupted and corrupting age. O accept our thanks that we have been enabled to place ourselves under the conduct of the great Captain of salvation, to take up the cross of Christ, and follow his divine leading in those paths of true honor and pleasure, which will terminate in the regions of

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purity

purity for ever. If we have this day seen the beauty of faith, the reality of things divine and eternal; if we have seen the necessity of being governed by those principles, O heavenly Father suffer them not to pass away from our minds, or if the cares of this life and its prospects, by the debility of nature, and the deceit of our hearts, should at any time lead us astray, then may these contemplations recall us to the right path, and carry us on with increasing perseverance.

HEAR, O Lord, the prayers that have been offered this day for men of every nation and name, for our native country and all its great interests, for our King and all his family, for all ranks and degrees of men, for the propagation of the gospel, the triumphs of faith and virtue in the lives, conversations, and characters of men. O merciful Father may we be under the government of Jesus, may we be united in love, cemented by friendship, animated by faith,

faith, adorned by the image of our Saviour, live in peace, and die in hope of thy glory, in hope of seeing him who has loved us, and given himself for us; of seeing him in all his dignity and glory, in all the majesty of his sceptre, and in all the lustre of his crown: By these contemplations may we be led forward in the beautiful and pleasant path of Christian virtue. We pray that thou would pity the afflicted, strengthen the weak, heal the sick, be a father to the fatherless, and the widow's God: O be a friend to him who has none; and may our hearts glow with charity and goodness: We beseech thee to lead us through life with comfort and serenity, and through death with peace, and may our eternity be happy for Christ's sake, *Amen.*

ADDRESS XI.

M O R N I N G.

ALMIGHTY God, and most gracious Father, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, the friend of pious and upright, of penitent and humble men, grant that we may be of the happy and of the honoured number, and that amidst all our imperfections, all our guiltiness, and all our nothingness in ourselves, we may be enabled to worship thee, who art a spirit, in spirit and in truth, through that name which is worthy, though we be unworthy, so as to entertain the delightful hope of being accepted: For this purpose we implore thy presence, we implore thy assistance, we put our trust in God, and we place our faith in Jesus; through him we approach thy throne

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ADDRESS XI. 85

as a throne of grace, and in that new and living way which thou hast consecrated through the vail of his flesh, and by the power of his mediation, we humbly hope, that thou wilt admit our approach, that thou wilt hear our address, that thou wilt answer our petitions, and smile on our services.

WE adore the perfections of thy nature ; thou art wise in council and mighty in work, thou art good to all, and thy tender mercies are over all thy works ; thy faithfulness is unshaken, thy purity untainted, thy truth eternal. We acknowledge the beauty, the benignity, the majesty of thy government ; we acknowledge all our dependance, without thee we are nothing, we have nothing, we can do nothing. We thank thee for the blessings of our creation, of our preservation, and all the blessings of this life ; but above all, beyond all, for the blessings of our redemption, for thine inestimable love in the salvation of the world by Jesus Christ, thy
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Son,

Son, our mediator, through whom thou art indulging us with the means of grace, and reviving us with the hopes of glory; through whom thou art raising fallen, guilty, degenerate, and unhappy man, to a better, a nobler, a diviner condition even than that of his first creation.

WE would not forget to thank thee for all the bounties that we enjoy, for the air we breath, the food we eat, the raiment we put on, the earth we tread, the light we behold, the rivers of God of which we drink, with all the advantages of society, of pleasure, of friendship, with all the security of law, and with all the privileges which as men and as Britons we possess; but still we would raise our contemplations higher and higher, to that astonishing scheme of redemption, which thou art carrying on by thy Son, by thy Spirit, and by thy Providence, from generation to generation, and which we would consider as the foundation of all our hopes for time and for eternity: But O
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ADDRESS XI.

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most high and thrice Holy, with what contrition and sorrow should we from these contemplations, turn to ourselves and consider our deep disorder, ingratitude, insensibility, and ~~mis~~improvement.

HAVE mercy upon us, have mercy upon us miserable offenders; and may the grace of God, which hath appeared to all men, and of which we trust we have been made partakers, teach us, that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world, looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: May the love of God inspire us, may the love of Jesus constrain us, may all the ingenuous, holy and heavenly principles of the gospel, be the principles of our conduct and conversation, and may our tempers be moulded into a resemblance of the spirit of Christ: May that spirit direct us, may thy providence preserve, and thine image adorn us, may thy

favor crown us, thy promises be our consolation here, and thy glory our portion hereafter. May our professions of religion be sincere, our practice of it constant, our dependance on its supports entire, our sense of our unworthiness humble and profound, our reliance on God unshaken and eternal. All our afflictions be sanctified, all our comforts sweetened, and all the circumstances of our lives over-ruled for thine honor and our salvation.

WE commend ourselves to thy care for what remains, we cast our burthens on the Lord that he may sustain them, we rest upon the everlasting arm that hath sustained us to this hour, and we believe in the everlasting covenant, which is all our salvation and all our desire: Guide us through darkness, direct us in difficulties, support us in weakness, guard us in danger, defend us from our spiritual enemies, from the world's snares, and most of all from ourselves: May humility clothe us, wisdom teach us, truth preserve

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preserve us: May the peace of God, which passeth all understanding keep our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

AFTER a life of duty, of service, of suffering according to the will of God, may we rest from our labors, and our works follow us into the kingdom of heaven, and there be accepted through the merits of our Saviour. We thank thee for every renewed opportunity of worshipping thee, of improving each other, of bettering ourselves, and of doing good: May we remember that all our opportunities are uncertain, that all our days are as a shadow, that the Judge standeth at the door, and that we must ere long give an account of the deeds done in the body, whether they be good or bad: O grant that under these impressions we may act, think, feel, believe! O inspire us as becomes the candidates of glory, of honor, of immortality: And in our last hour may we be supported by the testimony of a good conscience

science, by the presence of thy spirit, by the consolations of the gospel, by the hope that is full of immortality.

FORGIVE the offences of our lives past, pity the frailties of our fallen nature, enter not into judgment with thy servants, O Lord, for in thy sight no flesh living shall be justified: Forgive us wherein we fail in our attempts to serve thee in publick or in private, and wherein we have endeavoured to do so at any time, with whatever degree of weakness, accept; and may the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be now and evermore acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our only Redeemer: We trust and hope in thy mercy through our Mediator, while we recommend to that mercy in an especial manner our King, and his Queen, and family, the court, the navy and army, the magistrates and ministers of religion, our merchants and tradesmen, our navigators and
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ADDRESS XI.

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manufacturers, our husbandmen and day-labourers, with the whole body of the people in all their different relations and subordinations. May the gospel be glorified in this nation in a particular manner; may our friends be the friends of God, our benefactors rewarded by his bounty, and our enemies forgiven by his grace. The poor, the friendless, the helpless, the hopeless, the sick, the dying, we commit to thee, O most merciful Father, pity, help, comfort, sanctify, and save them all. We look up to thee for thy favor to us and ours, we cast our cares on thee who hast cared for us with more than a mother's tenderness, and more than a father's judgment; be our God for ever and ever, and our guide even unto death; and after death having joined ourselves to the Lord here in an everlasting covenant, may we join ourselves to him and to one another in that perpetual bond of holy love, that shall admit of no interruption or intermission, of no disturbance, decay,

decay, or end for ever. We ask it all in the name, and through the mediation of Jesus Christ our only Saviour and Advocate with thee, Our Father, &c.

ADDRESS.

ADDRESS XII.

EVENING.

WE confess before the thrice-Holy that in many instances and respects we lack wisdom, and therefore we would ask it of God, who giveth unto all men liberally, and upbraideth not : Many disorders, many irregularities we feel in our own breasts, many passions and unhallowed affections ; but we flee from the weakness of nature to the strength of Jesus, and ask of God to make us wise, pure, peaceable, gentle, meek, easy to be entreated. We pray that the beautiful and the celestial graces and virtues of our divine Redeemer may be transplanted into our hearts, that like him we may be meek and lowly. Blessed be thy name for that holy love and friendship, that filial and
proper

proper regard which thou hast established amongst us and our connections : Blessed be thy name for the peace of God which passeth all understanding, which we trust keeps our minds and hearts through Christ Jesus : May our fellowship be with the Father and the son, and with one another, in every thing that is wise and praise-worthy, whilst we stand immoveably fixed against the vices and snares of this evil, dissipated and corrupt age : Give us to join the prudence of the serpent with the innocence of the dove. God Almighty bless all whom we regard, our friends be the friends of God, forgive our enemies, and teach us from the heart to forgive, and may we learn from henceforth to walk only with wise men that we may be wise, and to avoid when we can avoid evil communications which corrupt good manners. We pray that God will visit the sick, the afflicted, the troubled, the depressed, the tempted, the dejected, the melancholy, the distracted, and the dying, with tender mercy.

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[† ONE friend in particular we wish to recommend to heaven, beseeching thee to send down the sweetest consolations into her afflicted soul, and to lay no more upon her exhausted body than she is able to bear, and to teach her to lift her eyes to heaven with hope, to fill her heart with holy love, with Christian gentleness, and with divine praise, and to receive her departing spirit when it shall be called away, into the bosom of everlasting blessedness and glory.]

WE look forward to the days of darkness, that shall be many, with humble awe, and we pray that when our hearts fail us, God may be the strength of our hearts, and our portion for ever : And in the mean while, that under all the discouragements of life, the depressions of sickness, the decays of age that may approach, under all the immutability and uncertainty of human things,

† This to be omitted or varied as occasion requires.

we may be enabled to possess our souls in patience and peace ; to dart the enlightened eye of faith beyond the grave, to view by holy contemplation that glorious country whither we are hastening, and to rejoice in the triumphant hope that we who have worshipped together in the beauty of holiness on earth, and in the spirit of love and charity, shall one day escape from the pleasure, the pomps, the cruelties and abominations, that are around us, and join yonder bright and beautiful, benevolent, and blessed assembly of saints and angels, with whom we shall worship and praise for ever him that sitteth on the throne, and the Saviour of the world.

O LORD God blessed be thy name, who hast brought life and immortality to light by the gospel, and hast revealed the only path to heaven, offering at the same time that power and strength of heaven, which are necessary to sustain and cheer the laboring traveller, to sweeten the sorrows of humanity, to sanctify its joys, and to lead on the
humble

humble, devout, and charitable believer to the perfection of his nature in the kingdom of eternity. Blessed be thy name who hast taught us to avoid dangers, and preserved us from calamities on the right-hand and on the left, and if thou hast disposed our minds to pursue the glorious track that leads to the city of God, O support us therein, thou Most High ; Most Wise do thou direct us ; Most Merciful comfort us ; may it be our delight to copy the graces and the virtues of every good man, may the love of justice, of devotion, of our neighbour, and of our Saviour be the leading principles of our conduct : Deliver us from those that would lead us astray into the pride of nature on the one hand, or into the impiety of hoping without holiness to see God on the other : May we be humble and meek, charitable and mild, forgiving and generous, self-denied, and self-resigned, distrusting our virtue, trusting in the grace of Jesus : Be these the beautiful dispositions, these the happy attainments of thy servants ; and the nearer

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we

we approach to the center of happiness and perfection, the more may our hearts expand, the more may our faith and hope lift us up : may the charity of Jesus sweeten all our tempers, ennoble all our sentiments, and inflame all our hearts with divine love, that we may rejoice if we see any creature made wiser, better, or happier : Impress upon us, we beseech thee, these divine principles, we believe they are the gift of a higher power than we possess, we seek them from God : send them down from thy heavenly throne, and while we exert our reason, do thou vouchsafe thine inspiration.

WE thank thee for any consolation that we have attained in thy service, and if thou hast bestowed any favor upon our souls, if thou hast heard any prayer of our hearts, if thine ear be open to any aspirations of thy humble servants, O hear us, answer and bless us, when we cry Lord God of mercy, may we live and die in peace : In peace with Thee, with our Redeemer, with
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ADDRESS XII. 99

our conscience, and as much as may be, in peace with men, loving the best, forgiving the worst, and praying that God may have mercy upon all : And thou wilt have mercy upon them, upon many, upon a multitude, upon a countless multitude of every kindred, tongue, and language, whom thou hast redeemed by the blood of thy Son ; and it is our most delightful contemplation that not we only, but myriads of myriads of myriads, of the race of Adam, shall one day shine with us in everlasting glory, and encircle thy throne rejoicing.

FORGIVE us, O Lord, wherein we have sinned this day, and accept of us in the great name and through the prevailing mediation of that Redeemer, whom we adore, in whom we will trust and glory living, dying, and throughout eternity. *Amen.*

At the SACRAMENT.

BEFORE RECEIVING.

WE are now to approach this sacred ordinance under the great character of believers, great indeed is such a character, for he that is a believer in deed and in truth, will under the influence of the grace that made him such, become great in the kingdom of God, great in the eye of Jesus, great in the estimation of the Judge of the whole world; and when Kings and Emperors, and all the most illustrious characters found among the sons and daughters of men, as far as this world can render them illustrious, shall hide their heads (if devoid of true religion) in sorrow and in shame, the believer shall lift his face in honor and in joy, he shall one day hear the enrapturing sound,

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found, come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world; ye believe in God, ye believe also in me; in my father's house are many mansions: Are we then believers? if so, let us solace ourselves with the contemplation of that day, when we who now surround this table, now prostrate our souls in the presence of our Saviour, shall surround the marriage supper of the Lamb, and be seated in the temple of Eternity with saints and seraphims: Why? because we were believers, not because we talked learnedly, paraded fluently, or wore a solemn profession, but because we believed with the heart unto righteousness, in the Son of God, as the glorious object of our faith, the Son of God incarnate, living, suffering, dying: Dying for the sins of the world; dying for our sins; rising again, ascending on high, sitting at the right hand of God, ruling in the empire of truth, goodness, and righteousness, and coming again to bring that kingdom to a final and eternal

consummation ! O glorious faith ! O divine consolations ! O beautiful and blessed principles of holy living ! To confirm us in these is the purpose of this institution, To strengthen our faith, to enliven our hope, to enlarge our charity, and to exalt our devotion. The grand question therefore for us is, Are we governed by the Spirit of Christ, or are we governed by the spirit of the world ? I trust we can with truth and seriousness, as in the presence of the great heart-searching Divinity, answer to the former, and then what should hinder us from participating at his table, first addressing his throne, and imploring his gracious assistance.

O MERCIFUL Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, grant that we may be believers in him whom thou hast sent, in the great principles of his holy religion, and in his cross, obedient to his sceptre, and elevated by the hope of sharing in his joy : We thank thee who hast presented these great
objects

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objects before us, so as to possess our heart with their influence; we thank thee who hast shewn us the divinity of religion, and the reality of eternal things: May we profess our faith and regards to thee in a manner at this time sincere and acceptable; and may those things that the world does not value, because the world does not understand, be to us sources of the purest pleasure, of the sweetest consolation, and of the highest improvement: Under the shadow, under the banner of our Saviour may we sit with great delight, under his conduct and power may we fight with glorious success, under his guardianship may we pass through life and death to his everlasting kingdom; and to prepare us for it, may the duty we are now to be engaged in be followed with a blessing: We ask all for Christ's sake, *Amen.*

WE are informed by the new testament that the same night in which Jesus was betrayed he took bread, and having broken it, and given thanks, he gave it to

his disciples, saying, take, eat, this is my body broken for you, this do in remembrance of me : And this will we do in remembrance of thee, thou best friend, thou greatest deliverer, thou whom it is the glory of saints and seraphims to admire : Lord we will do this in remembrance of thee, in humble hope that thou wilt remember us in our last hour, and when thou comest to judgment : O be thou our Saviour and our Friend in that awful conjuncture ! God forbid that we should glory save in the cross of Christ, for Christ crucified is the wisdom of God, and the power of God to salvation : And this is the object held forth to our faith at this time : O happy faith, whose enlightened eye beholds the Son of God, and the Saviour of men ! We would behold and admire the love of that Saviour, who will be our friend, and our brother, and our deliverer for ever.

BEHOLD the Son of God, behold the
Saviour of men, behold the Chief of ten
thousands,

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thousands, and the altogether Lovely : Our Lord and our God, is the language of our souls : We will take his yoke on us which is easy, and his burthen which is light.

◦ WE are further informed by the New Testament that after supper Jesus took the cup, the cup of the new Testament in his blood shed for the remission of the sins of many, and he said drink ye all of this : Drink, yea drink abundantly, O beloved of the most high God, drink all ye that are believers in my name ; Lord we believe, help thou our unbelief ; let others believe in the world, in its pleasures and profits, its delights and dignities, its promises and hopes : Let us believe in thee, thou will never fail us ; the world will disappoint, will desert, and forsake for ever its votaries, but thy followers shall triumph, and they that trust in thee shall never be confounded. May we all that drink of this cup find our hopes exalted, and our joys increased in him, whom having not seen we love, in whom

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whom believing we rejoice : For whom is there in heaven but thee O Lord, and there is none upon earth we would desire in comparison of thee. Thy command is, behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world; may we so behold as to admire and adore : We desire to ascribe glory, and honor, and blessing, and power to him that sitteth on the throne, and to the Lamb for ever and ever.

SURELY nothing less than eternity can explain the felicity and the glory of this great character which we now take on ourselves, the followers of Jesus ! children of the living God ! heirs and expectants of an eternal crown ! then we shall be believers no more, but saints ; blessed, glorious, honored and immortal ; for then faith shall cease, hope shall be at an end, and love and charity shall be all in all : Then adieu shadows and ordinances, farewell means of grace and instruments of salvation, for then salvation itself will be come, happiness will
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ADDRESS XII. 107

be consummated, and eternity fill up the scene: Then shall we know in perfection what we now believe; then shall we see and feel that Jesus is able to keep that which we have committed to him until the day of compleat redemption; then shall we fully understand the glory of divine principle, and perhaps recollect this hour passed at the Lord's table, with the other opportunities of grace, and the circles of friendship, blessing the saving-power that prevailed upon us to set our hands to this covenant, and to give ourselves to this Saviour, to profess ourselves his followers, and to give this publick testimony to the truth, and glory, and felicity of a religious life: Then shall we recollect with holy rapture, that God gave us grace not to be ashamed of religion, and blessed be God, we hope our religion is not a religion of shew, and we pray it may be modest yet noble, calm yet powerful; may our conversation be humble and heavenly; yes, let our friends and intimates witness that we are Christians: Let angels
see

see that we were sincere when we promised to be thy servants for ever. O blessed Angels behold our homage, witness our character now ; and when we are introduced to that great white throne, before which we must ere long appear, then attest ye blessed and benevolent beings, then attest that this day we set our hands to this great covenant : May we live and die within its bosom, and be able to say with thine ancient servant, he hath made with us an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and sure, this is all our salvation and all our desire : Lift upon us O Lord, the light of thy countenance, and that shall put gladness in our hearts, above what the world can ever enjoy, when its corn and wine abound : And when we retire from this place to worship in the family, or to pray in the closet, we will renew this covenant, we will review the transactions of this hour, we will say to our souls, we are Christians, we are believers, we are devoted persons, we are consecrated creatures, we have taken Jesus for our Saviour, our Master,

ter, our All! We must never deny him, never forsake him; and if through the weakness of nature, the deceitfulness of our hearts, the vanity of the world, or the treachery of our best resolves, we should sometimes be ready to fall; if our feet should sometimes slide, and be well nigh gone; then may we be enabled to call in the great principles of faith, the glorious convictions and persuasions that God has impressed upon our minds in their best hours, the examples of our friends, relations, and companions, now in eternity, as well as that of those which remain; to call in the example of the amiable companion of our lives, the sweet sister of our souls, the virtuous brother of our hearts, our good mothers, our pious fathers, and our venerable guardians: Thus may we be preserved day by day from evil, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God; fruits that shall at last bloom in the paradise of eternity, “fast by the throne of God,” from which flow rivers

vers of living water : Of those rivers may we and our friends, and the lovers of humanity drink for ever. O blessed eternity ! and beautiful communion ! O gracious Redeemer of a lost race ; O benevolent Father of us all ! O divine religion, and Christian Faith ! be ye the objects of our contemplation and our joy, living and dying, *Amen.*

AFTER RECEIVING.

WE will worship the living God who giveth us all things richly to enjoy pertaining to life and godliness, who gives also the best gifts, his Son, his Spirit, his Heaven, all in happy connection : We will rejoice in these prospects, we will glory in this faith : We thank the providence that brought us hither, while millions of mankind are bowing before stocks and stones, or worshipping the sun, the moon, the stars, and the host of heaven, we are worshipping the only living

ADDRESS XII. III

living and true God, through Jesus Christ, whom to know is life eternal : As our lots, were cast in this land of life, as our souls were brought into this covenant of love ; may we be everlasting monuments of gratitude and praise ! May our faith be that which belongs to true Christians, a faith working by love, purifying the heart and overcoming the world, and may we live and die under its influence, strengthened to duty, armed for trial, defended against temptation, fortified against the terrors of the grave, and elevated by the hope that is full of immortality. Vouchsafe O Lord, to bless all these communicants, all our fellow-worshippers, and the whole church of Christ. May religion in its genuine power and divinity universally prevail : Protect and guide us by thy wisdom, guard us by thine arm, and bring us to thy glory : After a life of faith, hope, joy, charity, and universal goodness, to die may it be gain, when faith shall be turned into vision, hope into enjoyment, and charity, the love of God, of Jesus,
of

of saints, and of angels, shall be all in all through a boundless eternity : There may we and all our friends and relatives, and these our fellow-communicants, meet with that innumerable company which no man can number ; there may we all worship and conspire in the immortal and everlasting praises of him that sitteth on the throne, and of the Lamb of God, who was slain to take away the sins of the world. *Amen.*

ADDRESS XIII.

M O R N I N G.

IN the midst of all the dangers, distresses, and vexations of life, what comfort and joy for us thy servants, O Lord, to lift up our hearts to that throne of thine, where mercy sits supreme and immortal, for ever ready to smile upon thine humble worshippers, and to send forth those consolations into the contrite heart, the broken spirit, and the troubled breast, which this state of frailty and affliction requires. O what shall we render, what can we render for those pleasures that flow from religion, for those rivers of pleasure that flow from thy right-hand for evermore, for the transporting hopes of the gospel of Jesus, who lived and died, and rose again, and ascended on high, and sat down on the

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right-

114 ADDRESS XIII.

right-hand of the Majesty above, that he might purchase and prepare eternal mansions of purity and peace, for all his faithful followers through this vale of trial. Blessed for ever be the name of our Saviour, and our God, that though in this world we have tribulation, yet in thee we have peace, and that though our path to everlasting glory is an arduous way, through a thousand difficulties, and a thousand deaths, yet even in the mean time, it is strewn with ten thousand satisfactions, satisfactions which are tasted by the pious and the wise: May we be of that happy number, and then whatever hath befallen, or shall befall us, we have reason to believe shall work together for our good, for our advancement in the way that leads to heaven, that leads to eternal repose, perfection and happiness.

WE rejoice in the present opportunity of lifting the eye of faith, the hand of prayer, and the soul of hope, on high to where our God and our Saviour live and reign: we
thank

ADDRESS XIII. 115

thank thee for the bright, the beautiful prospects of salvation through Christ Jesus, which thou hast opened to man in the midst of all his guilt; that though he hath destroyed himself, yet in thee his help hath been found: That though he hath plunged himself in the abyss of depravity, of debasement, and of distress, yet one mighty to save hath appeared in the world, to raise him up, to raise him higher than even the elevation from whence he fell: O most merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, suffer us never to know the misery of falling short of such great salvation; let us not reject the counsel of God against ourselves, let us not reckon ourselves unworthy of eternal life, let us not offer a deaf ear to the charming, to the exciting voice of wisdom, that calls us from vanity and folly to the blissful path which leads up to purity and joy: Let us not be insensible of the wondrous ways through which thy providence hath led us; the influences which thy spirit hath afforded; thy merciful pro-

proceedings towards us ; we would cast the eye of admiring recollection on the past, and from thy goodness would learn to trust for the future that arm which is not shortened that it cannot save, and that ear which is not heavy that it cannot hear ; we would learn more and more the glorious art of pouring out the full soul into the paternal bosom of him that made us ; and from prayer, and praise, and contemplation, and thy holy word, which should be the joy and the song of thy servants through every age, we would derive internal complacence and peace, amidst all the hardships which we can meet in this pilgrimage of mortality ; suffer us never to forget what and where we are, but to remember, that here we have no continuing city of abode, and that all afflictions are intended by unerring wisdom to remind us of the condition of life, of the uncertainty and unsatisfactory nature of all its pleasures and pursuits, and to point us to that peaceful, that bright region, where the spirits of just men and women are made perfect,

ADDRESS XIII. 117

perfect, and where those who have delighted in the ways of wisdom and piety, shall re-assemble to part no more.

To begin these delightful occupations, to relish these sublime entertainments, which will employ us for ever, to perform the part which thou hast assigned us, to sustain the sorrows which thou hast appointed, to subdue the temptations with which we are surrounded, and to look to Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith: Be this our study, our attainment, and our joy.

GUIDE us through what remains of this dark and dreary path of humanity, we know not what one day can or may bring forth, but we know that thou livest and reignest for ever and ever; and that though many are the afflictions of the just, yet righteousness and judgment are the habitation of thy seat, and mercy and truth go before thy face: and that the day is approaching when every cloud and every shadow shall flee away,

118 ADDRESS XIII.

and all shall be one extensive and one immortal empire of light, and love, and felicity amongst saints and seraphims: Supported by these considerations, may we possess our souls in patience, preserve our tempers in cheerfulness; may our deportment be sweetened with all the meekness of wisdom, and our spirits be moulded into the image of Jesus, of him who is ascended, of him who shall come again, with whom we wish to live for ever, and who hath given us the boldness thus to vent our wishes in the presence of his Father, and of our Father, of his God, and of our God: And when the last inevitable hour arrives, to us be it welcome, no hour of terror, of consternation or amazement, but the happy, honored and transporting hour when we shall exchange this scene of vanity and frailty, for that world where frailty and vanity cannot enter.

DELIGHTED with these contemplations,
and inflamed by all the divine charities that
contem-

ADDRESS XIII. 119

contemplations like these are calculated to inspire, we would address the throne of the Universal Father, not for ourselves alone, but for all the children of mankind, praying that they may become the children of God by regeneration and adoption, and heirs of the everlasting kingdom: May the divine religion of Christ be propagated over the face of the habitable earth, and wherever it is professed, may it bring forth all the glorious fruits of peace and good will; may those who name the name of Christ depart from iniquity; may the gospel where it is preached have free course, and be glorified in the conversion of sinners, in the establishment of saints, and in the triumph of peace and goodness, and truth. Our native land, with all its important concerns and connections, both at home and abroad, we would recommend to the protection of that great Ruler amongst the nations, by whose grace and goodness this land has been so often distinguished, in the glorious things which thou hast wrought for us, and in the

noble privileges with which thou hast favoured us : O Lord, pour down thy blessings, and thy divinest consolations into the heart of thy servant and our sovereign King George, to support him under those distresses which may at any time affect him, and direct him from day to day in that dangerous situation in which he is placed : May wise, faithful, and honest men, too honest to betray the interests of their country, and too brave to be turned aside from the glorious cause of saving this nation, always stand before him; or if there were any found amongst the King's counsellors, that would sacrifice to the lust of power, or the love of gold, those great interests which are intrusted in their hands, most great and glorious. Governor of this world, may their designs be discovered, and may publick zeal and private integrity reign and flourish. The Queen and her children, together with the people at large, and the ministers of the gospel we commend to thy care : Command thy benediction on this society, and on all the societies

ADDRESS XIII. 121

cieties that call on thy name : To serve the Lord with our whole hearts be this our resolution and our uninterrupted practice : Aid our feeble endeavours, pardon our numerous offences, speak peace to our consciences, pour in the oil of joy and gladness, accept our united thanks for thine undeserved mercies ; let our lips and lives be gratitude and praise, and may we now and ever find thine acceptance and favor, not because we dare claim them through any righteousness of ours, but only through the righteousness of Jesus Christ our Saviour and Advocate with thee, Our Father, &c.

ADDRESS

ADDRESS XIV.

EVENING.

FATHER of spirits, and Fountain of universal happiness, whose amazing presence fills immensity, and whose greatness commands universal adoration ; we address thee as the Omnipotent Governor of the universe, in whom all majesty is for ever centered, and from whom all preferment cometh ! Heaven is thy throne, and the earth is thy footstool ; all the beauty and magnificence we behold is the product of thy power, all the felicity that is felt through universal nature, is the effect of thine inspiration : Thine arm first suspended the globe upon nothing, thine energy supports the pillars of nature, thy presence animates the whole compass of Creation ! To the
footstool

ADDRESS XIV. 123

footstool of greatness like thine, we would
 ever come with the deepest humility and ve-
 neration: Teach us to raise our thoughts
 above the world, while with devotion the
 most solemn and pure we draw nigh to the
 throne of the living God, and attempt to
 commune with the Most High! We enter
 thy presence under the clearest conviction,
 that it is our indispensable and everlasting
 duty to worship and bow down before thee;
 thine hands have formed us and not we our-
 selves, we are the sheep of thy pasture, and
 the people of thy care; we present to thee
 our solemn and united gratitude for that
 breath of life, which thine inspiration has
 given, and which thy continued energy sup-
 ports; for these curious bodies which thine
 hand has formed, and for all those various
 affections and feelings which inspire our
 frame, and conduce so much to the happi-
 ness of human life; but more especially for
 those noble and immortal powers of mind,
 by which we are enabled to discern between
 good and evil, to contemplate the beauty
and

and the majesty of everlasting truth, to adore the perfections of Almighty God, and in some faint degree to resemble thine eternal purity and goodness. To thee we are indebted, thou great Parent of benevolence, we present our gratitude to thee, for all those aids which have sustained us in the path of duty, for all the benefits which flow from a liberal and virtuous education, for the wise exhortations of friendship, and for the respectable and amiable affections of virtue, with which we have been surrounded : For that liberty of conscience, by which we may assemble to worship thee according to the dictates of our minds, and for the innumerable opportunities, with which we are favored, of establishing our piety, and animating our charity, by engaging with our Christian brethren in worshipping the God and Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We bless thy name for that excellent system of faith and practice which Christianity contains, and for that firm and immoveable foundation on which it stands :
Glory

Glory to God in the highest for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, in whose triumph over the grave, we read the sacred dignity and the high destination of our nature.

CROWNED with these distinguished advantages, we pray with all the solemnity and fervor of which we are capable, that we may ever be solicitous to improve them to our own honor and happiness: Let us not contemplate that prospect of glory, honor, and immortality, which Christianity opens upon us, with stupid languor and inactivity; but may it inspire us with alacrity and ardour in the path of duty, and may it excite within us noble, manly, and generous sentiments; may it raise us above all the levity and vanity of mortal life, conduct us with dignity through scenes of suffering, and inspire us with magnanimity and zeal in that fearful hour, when heart and flesh shall for ever fail. Let us not look into that volume which contains our most
holy

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holy religion, and read its beautiful passages, with transient sensibility, or with cool admiration, but may its exalted sentiments be written upon our hearts ; teach us to breathe its elevated spirit, and to reduce to practice all the excellent rules which it contains : Thus may we adorn the gospel of Jesus Christ, thus may we approve ourselves faithful disciples, that need not be ashamed when their master shall appear.

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our spirits, and the Disposer of all events, we commend ourselves to thy providential care for every future hour of life ; wherever we are, may we never lose the consciousness of thy presence and protection : In the midst of all the vexations and disappointments of mortal life, may our spirits be stayed in perfect peace upon God, as long as we shall continue in this state of probation : Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from all evil : Let not the pleasures and blandishments of sin be able to seduce us from the path of duty,

ADDRESS XIV. 127

duty, but may we resist every temptation with spirit and resolution, and in every conflict, through Christ strengthening us, may we come off conquerors, and more than conquerors : And in that solemn hour when we shall pass through the dark valley and shadow of death, where no power but thine can support our failing spirits, when no consolations but thine can keep us from the depths of despair, then may the Lord God Omnipotent be with us, and his rod and his staff comfort us ; and may our departing spirits be admitted into the regions of immortal purity and joy.

ALMIGHTY and Universal Parent, we would pray for all our fellow-creatures in every earth of the globe ; may the whole earth be enlightened with the beams of everlasting truth, may every disposition flourish upon earth that can ennoble human nature, and promote the happiness of society : May liberty of conscience and freedom of enquiry be universally known :

Let

Let all bigotry, prejudice, party spirit and pride, be entirely and for ever banished from the Christian churches : May all the honest worshippers of God join hand in hand, and heart in heart, and go to the house of God in company : We pray for all that are afflicted, whether in body or in mind ; thou art the only healer of diseases, and thou only canst bind up the broken heart : Pity the friendless, the forsaken, the widow and the orphan ; we pray for kind support in every scene of sorrow, and a virtuous improvement of every calamity.

ALMIGHTY God, the Guardian and the Governor of the whole earth, we pray that our native country may long continue to be the object of thy favor : May the King joy in thy strength, and in thy salvation may he rejoice for ever : Do thou stand near his throne, and establish it in righteousness ; be thou his counsellor in the midst of the weighty cares of his state, be thou his friend in the midst of the false professions
of

of friendship with which he may be at any time surrounded. May the Queen and the royal family be the objects of thy paternal care : May those that rule the state be actuated by the purest integrity, enable them to form the clearest and most comprehensive schemes, and may all their wise and virtuous measures be accompanied by the blessing of Almighty God. Pour forth a spirit of honest repentance and reformation upon all classes of men ; may they all practice that righteousness which alone exalteth a nation ; and under the influence of private and public virtue for many successive years, may we continue to draw down thy blessing. Bless all the ministers of the everlasting gospel, and may all their honest and upright labours in the cause of Christian charity be accompanied with success. Hear us, O thou that hearest prayer, in these our imperfect and unworthy petitions, for the sake of that mercy declared to mankind by Jesus Christ our Lord ; as his disciples we now ad-

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dress thee, in his gospel we place our confidence and trust; and in his name we ascribe unto thee, glory, and honor, blessing and power, for evermore. *Amen.*

ADDRESS

ADDRESS XV.

M O R N I N G.

THOU art our God and we will praise thee, our fathers God and we will exalt thee. O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth. Because of the excellence of thy loving kindness, the sons of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings ; for there is no peace but in covenant with thee, no solid comfort but in thy favor, no real happiness but in the light of thy countenance. Thou art the Father of our spirits, the strength of our hearts, the portion of our souls, and the length of our days ; our comforter in affliction, our friend in misery, our light in darkness, and our guide in difficulty. Whom have we in heaven but thee, and what is there in earth or heaven we can

desire beside thee. Because thy loving kindness is better than life, our lips shall give thee praise ; we will bless thee while we live, and lift up our hands in thy name. Our souls shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and our mouths shall praise thee with joyful lips ; for thou art our refuge in the time of trouble, our strong hold in whom alone we will trust. Hast thou not forgiven all our iniquities, healed all our diseases, redeemed our lives from death, and crowned us with loving kindneses and tender mercies, brought us out of an horrible pit, and out of the miry clay, set our feet upon a rock, established our goings, and put a new song in our mouths : Salvation to our God who sitteth upon the throne, Amen : Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever.

BECAUSE we have made the Lord our refuge, and the Most High our habitation, no evil can befall us, neither can any plague come

ADDRESS XV. 133

come nigh our dwelling. We will not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day, for the pestilence that walketh in darkness, or the destruction that wasteth at noon-day : Surely then it is good for us to draw near unto thee, to shew forth thy loving kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night ; for thou wilt be our guide even unto death, thou wilt lead us by thy counsel, and afterwards receive us to glory. Whatever should be our lot in life, however comfortless and destitute, yet will we rejoice in the Lord, and joy in the God of our salvation ; for thou art a sun and a shield, thou givest grace and glory. and no good thing wilt thou withhold from them that walk uprightly.

WE praise thee for the continued communication of so much unmerited favour, of so many unexpected blessings : We praise thee for what measure of health and strength we enjoy, for the night and morning's mercy, and for the seasonable supply of all our wants.

We praise thee for thy unwearied attention to our concerns, for all the bounties of nature, and all the gifts of providence : We praise thee for our present possessions and our future expectations, for the life that now is, and that which is to come : We praise thee for all those powers with which thou hast endowed our minds, and all those feelings with which thou hast replenished our hearts, for the hopes thou hast inspired, the discoveries thou hast made, the promises thou hast given, and the privileges thou hast vouchsafed.

THIS is that day which thou hast consecrated and set apart for thy worship, as an emblem of that everlasting rest which remaineth for thy people : Thou hast moreover magnified the sabbath and made it honourable by that memorable event from which it has its name ; that the very time we employ in the public and social profession of our faith, may remind us of the capital evidence on which it rests. We would join the whole
Christian

ADDRESS XV. 135

Christian world in celebrating the triumph of a risen and exalted Saviour, and rejoice together in that he who was once dead, is now alive, and liveth for evermore, and hath the keys of hell and of death. May the life we now live in the flesh be a life of faith on the Son of God, a constant looking out for that blessed hope, the appearing of the great God and our Saviour, who shall change these vile bodies that they may be fashioned and made like unto his own glorious body.

ACCEPT O Lord our united acknowledgments for the opportunities we have of worshipping thee in thy holy temple. Forgive the wanderings of our hearts before thee, seal instruction on our minds, and realize it in our lives. Assist us as we are to be engaged in thy service; O that the power of the Lord were present to heal us; we come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercies, and worship in thy fear towards thy temple: fill our souls with a sense of thy presence, and animate our devotion with the influence

ence of thy spirit : Breathe upon us the breath of life, and awaken our attention to the voice of thy gospel : Without thee we can do nothing, and without thy blessing all we do is worse than nothing ; make the preaching of thy word successful, and thy people willing in the day of thy power : Our waiting eyes are towards thee : Deny us not the aids of thy grace, strengthen us with all strength in the inner man, and uphold us with the right-hand of thy righteousness ; hear us in heaven thy dwelling place, and do for us far beyond what we can ask or think, for his sake whom thou hearest always. *Amen.*

ADDRESS XVI.

EVENING.

THOU O Lord art the God of heaven and earth, to thee do we approach who art the length of our days, and the source of all our happiness, our Father, our Friend, and our eternal Reward: We pray, that as we are now in a state of trial and improvement for another world, it may be our first care, and our highest ambition to escape from every erroneous opinion, and every vicious habit: And if at any time we have been subdued by any thing which might degrade our natures, and allure us from the path of happiness, which is the only path of tranquillity, O enable us by thy grace to act better for the future: Do thou shew us, O Lord, the loveliness of virtue, and let us become her votaries for ever. Give us to
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know the dignity of our origin, our glorious destination, that we were made to rise above the wants of life, and to shine for ever in the highest degrees of perfection and bliss, that natures like ours can attain: And let us here begin by thy grace to be qualified for those nobler joys; let our hearts be more and more directed thither, and let all those who trust in thee be of good courage: Do thou prepare us, O God, for the hour of death, that hour from which neither riches, knowledge, or fame, nor even the sweetest endearments of our kindest friends will be able to rescue us: In that awful and inevitable hour, do thou aid us with thy spirit, attract us with thy wisdom, and cheer us with thy consolations: We will hope in that mercy for the time to come, which we have so largely experienced for the time past, for we know that through all the regions of thy works, we cannot go where thy presence will not surround us and sustain us, and smile upon us, if we be the followers of that which is good.

We

ADDRESS XVI. 139

WE recommend to thy favor all our fellow-creatures of whatever country, of whatever denomination: Let those now surrounded by the mists of darkness be visited by the glorious light of the gospel: Be thou the God of these lands, crown the King with every Christian and royal virtue that can adorn his exalted station; let the land prosper: Thine arm, O Almighty God, has often been extended for its protection and defence, on that we still rely as its surest guard; let us flourish before thee as a nation, in laws, in liberties, in religion, in peace, in plenty, in arts and in arms: Bless all our magistrates and all thy ministers every where: Be the God of our friends wherever they are, and may they always be surrounded by the wings of almighty love. Pity our frailties, pardon our deviations from thy holy laws, cause the light of thy countenance to smile upon us, and we shall be whole; give us thy peace to comfort us, and we ask no more: Through all the changes of life we will hope in thy name,
and

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and when death comes we will obey the summons with confidence and alacrity, hoping to join the first-born sons of light, and to praise thee in the sublimest strains with the spirits of just men made perfect, where charity is the bond which shall unite us, truth the sun which shall enlighten us, and eternity the measure which shall bound our duration. We intreat thy protection through this night, and thy preservation and blessing through all the days and nights of our lives, and accept of us now and evermore, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour and Advocate, in whose name, and as whose disciples we call upon thee, Our Father, &c.

ADDRESS

ADDRESS XVII.

M O R N I N G.

ALMIGHTY and Eternal God, the former of our bodies, the Father of our spirits, and the Fountain of all our happiness; we would draw nigh to the footstool of thy throne with all that humility and veneration, which greatness like thine can inspire in minds like ours: Whatever of venerable or amiable our ideas can reach, we ascribe with united voice to the great Being we adore: But how shall man set forth the praises of his Maker, our sublimest ascriptions are debasing; even the spirits that are near thee are lost in wonder, and unable to set forth thy most worthy praise: yet the voice that arises from the dust thou dost not disdain to hear; thou wilt accept the humble efforts of humanity, as well as the
more

more exalted services of angels : Although thou art the High and Lofty One, which inhabiteth eternity, whose name is holy, who dwellest in the high and the lofty place, yet even to this man wilt thou look, and with this man thou also wilt dwell, who is of an humble and contrite spirit, for thou wilt revive the spirits of the contrite. Animated by this hope of divine acceptance, we present our praises and petitions at thy footstool ; we desire to worship thee the Father of spirits, in spirit and in truth, and to enter thy presence in the exercise of all those sentiments and affections which thy character is calculated to inspire.

O THOU who art the Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, who is, and who was, and who is to come ; when we consider thy spotless and perfect purity, the numberless imperfections that we find within us, cannot but fill us with confusion, whilst we confess them in thy presence ; and when we look back on the past, when we reflect on
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ADDRESS XVII. 143

the goodness with which every period of it has been marked ; when we think of the mercy with which every moment has been crowned, we cannot but feel a painful consciousness that the returns we have made have been far inferior to our obligations, that we have not been animated by that fervent gratitude that ought to have inspired us ; that we have not cultivated those dispositions and affections towards thee, which we ought to have cultivated : in innumerable instances we have erred and gone astray from thy ways like lost sheep ; even amidst the solemn duties of this place, imperfection attends us, whilst we are presenting our praises, our languor borders upon ingratitude, and when standing near the gate of heaven, we are thinking of the world : but although we are thus covered with imperfection, we have no reason to sink down into despair ; we triumph in the persuasion that thou art not strict to mark iniquity, but that there is everlasting forgiveness with thee. We most devoutly pray that thou wilt
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blot our offences from the book of thy remembrance, that all our infirmities may be forgiven, and that we may be continually aspiring to that state of Christian perfection, which will prove an immortal source of peace and joy.

WE address thee as the Father of all our mercies, from whom all our blessings come, and to whom all praises are due ; and we return thee our sincere and publick thanks for all the happiness that hath attended us to this moment ; we bless thy name that we are this day in the sphere of usefulness, in the enjoyment of health, and the possession of reason ; that we are surrounded by the pleasures of society and friendship, and assembled together in the presence of Almighty God : All these blessings come from thee, and to thee we offer up our united praises for them ; but O thou Fountain of inexhaustible felicity, there are still stronger ties that bind us to thee ; there are still richer blessings that call for more fervent praises :

Thou

ADDRESS XVII. 145

Thou hast redeemed us from iniquity and death, thou hast called us out of darkness into light, thou hast lifted us from the borders of despair to the animating prospect of glory, honor, and immortality ! May the exalted hopes which Christianity kindles within us, inspire us with the most sincere and fervent gratitude, may we be ever disposed to shew forth that gratitude in every action of our lives, and may these sentiments ever operate upon our minds, that if God has so loved us, we ought also to love one another ; as we are attached to the same Saviour, as we commemorate the same events, as we contemplate the same prospects, as we are travelling to the same country, may our hearts be united together in love here, and our souls dwell in harmonious intercourse for ever : And while we continue in this state of mortality, may we distribute to each other's necessities, cover each other's infirmities, and forgive each other's offences, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven us : May these principles

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take a deep root and flourish within us; may these dispositions actuate us through every scene of our lives, and finally may we be exalted to that state of perfection and glory, where all our frailties shall be forgiven and forgotten; and where every heart shall glow with the most ardent gratitude and the most generous charity.

WE address thee as the Father of all, and we implore the blessings of thy providence and grace to all mankind; civilize their manners, and enlarge their ideas; may every important truth be established, may every liberal art be encouraged; and, under the mild and genial influences of the Christian religion, may the human heart be gradually arising from one degree of purity and perfection to another. We implore divine support and consolation in every scene of sorrow, may every sufferer find a friend in thee: We intreat thee to relieve the necessities of the indigent, to incline the opulent to do good, and to communicate, to heal
the

the broken-hearted, and to bind up all their wounds : Do thou animate the sick amidst all the languors of indisposition, and if it be thy will, restore the valuable and the amiable to health, to usefulness, and to friendship : support the drooping head that is sinking down into the dust, and may the dark valley of the shadow of death be illumined by thy presence.

WE commit to thy protection and best benediction, O thou King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, by whom alone kings reign, and princes decree justice, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and whose empire is as universal as thy love ; We commit to thy blessing our sovereign King George, may his heart be the seat of integrity and goodness, and as long as he lives, enable him to reign in the favour and affection of his subjects : Bless her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and all the royal family ; may they tread that publick walk in which thy providence has placed them, with credit and

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with honor ; and may their light so shine before men that thy name may be glorified : May our laws be enacted with that wisdom which is from above, and executed with spirit mingled with lenity and mildness : May our publick affairs be ordered with discretion, may our publick characters be respectable and virtuous, and may every member of this community form one pillar of dignity and greatness : Hear us Almighty and Most Merciful Father, in these our imperfect and unworthy petitions, for the sake of that mercy which was from everlasting, and is to everlasting, and which was declared to mankind by Jesus Christ, our Lord ; in his name and as his disciples we further pray unto thee. *Our Father, &c.*

ADDRESS

ADDRESS XVIII.

EVENING.

AMIDST the uncertainty inseparable from this stage of dependence and indigence on which we are placed : amidst our frequent distresses and disappointments in this world, what comfort and what joy to the upright and to the humble mind, to be permitted to lift its thoughts and wishes to that throne, from whence nothing can flow to the faithful but goodness and happiness for ever : For ever blessed, therefore, be thy name O Lord our God, that we have been taught by thy Son and our Saviour to address thee as our Father, and to ask of thee a supply of our necessities ; to ask of thee that which is requisite to make our pilgrimage through life in some degree supportable and comfortable ;

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fortable ; while at the same time we are also
 taught to aspire after nobler and diviner
 things than earth can afford ; to aspire after
 an interest in thy favor, O thou Supreme of
 Beings, through our exalted and meritori-
 ous Redeemer : We devoutly pray that we
 may be more and more solicitous to obtain
 those superior blessings, while with humble
 dependance we address thee for inferior ones :
 We would adopt this evening the prayer of
 thy pious servant of old, give us neither
 poverty nor riches, feed us with food con-
 venient for us ; and having been blessed with
 a decent competency of the good things of
 this life, may we trace them to thee the
 Giver of every good gift : With gratitude
 and with humility may we continually ac-
 knowledge that we are less than the least of
 all thy mercies ; and at the same time may
 we be aspiring after something yet higher,
 and more adequate to the wishes and wants
 of our immortal natures : Inspire us, O thou
 Giver of all good, with a spirit of praise and
 of prayer, and by conversing with thee the
 supreme

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supreme Parent, by having our fellowship with the Father and the Son, by lifting our thoughts to him who gave us the power to think, and our desires to him who indued us with these affections; may our minds be more exalted, may our tempers and passions be refined, and all our faculties elevated to something sublime and glorious.

WE give thee our most humble and our most hearty thanksgivings, O heavenly Father, if thou hast inspired any of us thy worshippers with desires after the best things; we pray that thou wouldst teach us to cherish them more and more: Give us more and more to feel the necessity of a supply of the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of those consolations that flow from that perennial and that eternal fountain of all consolation, true religion: Let us taste the joys of a good conscience, and all the blissful prelibations of the soul, by which it shall be formed to approve and relish the fruits of paradise: O bright and beautiful paradise! O everflow-

ing and unfailing rivers of pleasure and of joy at the throne of God and the Lamb ! O glorious worshippers in that eternal state of blessedness, may ye be the objects of our daily contemplation ; and may it be our delight and study, our ambition and joy, our ornament and our care to prepare for the enjoyment of them.

AND as we pray that thou would give us this day our daily bread, we pray also that thou wouldst bestow it on all our fellow-creatures throughout the world, and particularly on the poor and the needy, who struggle with the distresses of indigence : Teach them prayer, teach them hope, teach them to trust in thee : Open the minds and the hearts of all thy servants to communicate of their fulness to them that want, and so dispose our hearts and minds : Give us to taste of the divinest pleasures which can be tasted by mortal or by immortal beings, that of diffusing happiness on those around us : Pity, O Lord, all under afflictions of whatever

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ever kind ; over-rule every circumstance of distress and woe for the wisest and best purposes, and teach thine afflicted children to seek their relief and comfort from God : Give us grace, O Lord, to hold fast our righteousness, and never let it go, that our hearts may not reproach us as long as we live : Help us to maintain a conscience void of offence towards thee and towards man, and having done our duty according to the measure of power thou hast given us, then to cast all our cares on thee who hath cared for us to this hour : Upon thine eternal, universal, never-failing providence, we rest the whole weight of our concerns, for time and for eternity. Never leave us, O God, never forsake us, be our God for ever and ever, and our guide even unto death ; and after death receive us into the bosom of undecaying blessedness and peace, through the abundant and infinite merits of Jesus Christ our blessed Redeemer. *Amen.*

At

At the SACRAMENT.

BEFORE RECEIVING.

WHAT shall we render to God for all his benefits bestowed on us, we acknowledge ourselves to be less than the least of all thy mercies ; vouchsafe to accept of the greatest and best returns that we can pay for all the loving kindnesses and tender mercy with which thou hast visited us all along in life, from its first moment to the present, for we have been monuments of that loving kindness and tender mercy all the way, which call for our deepest gratitude and most devout adoration ! Astonished to find that we are alive at this hour, and not only alive, but in circumstances upon the whole so favorable and so hopeful ; and above all that though we have in so many instances and ways discovered ingratitude for the
highest

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highest and the richest portions of thy grace and love in Christ Jesus, yet thou art continually conferring them upon us, as if we had never misimproved them ; thou art continuing to us this feast of thy own providing, for the fainting, for the hungry and thirsty soul, in their passage through this vale of tears, to the kingdom of heaven : O what can we render for this great salvation, for the majesty of our Saviour's instructions, for the glory of his undertaking, for the greatness of his perfections, for the merits of his death, for the triumph of his resurrection, for the honors of his ascension, for the elevation in which he sits at thy right-hand, and for those immortal hopes which he will fullfil at his second coming : We desire to contemplate all this with wonder, with some feeling, and with some sentiments of soul, above what we are able to express ; and if we feel these sentiments, and entertain these affections, we are persuaded thou wilt accept them all imperfect as they are ; for thou art good even
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unto the evil and to the unthankful, and thou wilt not break the bruised reed nor quench the smoking flax, and our Saviour has invited to him those that labour and are heavy laden under the pressure of sins, under the force of sufferings, under the vanity and vexations inseparable from human life ; Therefore we will fly to our Redeemer, our Master, our Prince, our God ! and we will hope for mercy and support, for strength, for all that can fill up the wants of our nature, and the boundless wishes of our immortal minds : At this time do thou command thy blessing, O Lord, bestow thy favors, send forth thy spirit of light and truth to lead us to thy holy hill, and make us joyful in this communion of love and grace : May the peace of God, that passeth all understanding rule in our hearts and the love of God and our Saviour, and our fellow-creatures, be the prevailing principle in our breasts through our great Redeemer. *Amen.*

AND

AND it will be so through that great Mediator whom we at this hour remember, we trust with gratitude, and with faith, with resignation and with hope; submitting ourselves wholly to his providence, and casting our souls for ever on his cross, that cross which alone can sustain the weight of salvation, and strengthen and support us in our ascent to heaven: Happy, glorious religion, that tends to make its professors glorious and happy, by raising them above the world, above themselves, and leading them forth from the indigence of nature, to a participation of the love of God! Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled: Pleasing hope if we are attracted by this sacred desire, and persuaded that Jesus will fulfil the longings of our hearts, with the peace, the pleasure, and the joy of true religion!

WE are now to receive the memorial of the bread of life. Jesus having taken bread broke it, and gave thanks, and gave it to
his

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his disciples, saying, take, eat, this is my body broken for you, this do ye in remembrance of me : And this will we do in remembrance of thee, O thou never to be forgotten Saviour and Friend !—No, never to be forgotten by the redeemed by his blood ! Impossible, that they who have an interest in his death, in his grace and friendship, can ever lose the remembrance of that Saviour who died for them, that they might live for ever ; that remembrance surely can never be lost ; Though we are imperfect, yet we hope we are sincere.—O do thou endue us with truth in the inward parts, and warm our breasts with the love of Jesus : Let universal nature sound his praise : Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted up ye everlasting doors that the King of Glory may come in : Come in thou Prince of Peace and Renown, thou Blessed for ever ! Thy dominion is amiable, thy yoke is easy, thy burthen is light : We consecrate ourselves to that for time and eternity ; our strength, our time, our talents we give to thee,

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thee, who gavest thyself for us.—God forbid that we should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ! May Christ crucified be to us the wisdom of God, and the power of God to salvation: We know in whom we have believed, and that he is able to keep that good thing which we have committed to him until the day of his appearing: He will never disappoint our dependence, and never deceive our hope.—In the midst of the chances and changes of mortality, what a comfort to know of a foundation upon which we may build our hopes for ever, so firm, that though the rain shall descend, and the winds blow, and the storms beat, our souls shall be secure, because they are founded on a rock, and that rock is the eternal truth of the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.—Jesus was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and by his stripes we are healed:—He became an offering for sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in

in him; and when the human nature was perishing for spiritual supplies, Jesus the true bread, the bread of life, the bread of God, came down from heaven, that he might raise starving spirits up to everlasting life: He that eateth this bread shall not hunger, and he that drinketh of this cup shall not thirst, shall never find himself destitute of true comfort, but shall find all his best wishes gratified, and all his noblest desires supplied:—Lord give us evermore this bread, and though our cups should not overflow in the dangerous way of prosperity, O may they ever overflow with the sweetness of divine benediction.

AFTER supper also Jesus took the cup, having given thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, this cup is the New Testament in my blood, shed for the remission of the sins of many, drink ye all of this, for as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye shew forth the Lord's death, till he come again: Therefore we will take the
cup

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cup of salvation, and encompass thine altar, and pay our vows in the presence of this congregation, not ashamed of the cross and testimony of Jesus, but happy in the honor of being called his servants: May we be so in deed and in truth, and not in name only.

WHAT think ye of Christ? was a question asked long ago; we readily reply, he is the Son of the Living God, the Chief among ten thousands, and altogether lovely; and he that believeth in him shall never, never be confounded: Give us a friend in whom we can trust; give us a foundation on which we can build; give us a person that will never fail us; give us a Saviour that will be all in all: Yes, yes, make us rich, but let it be by the unsearchable riches of Jesus: Yes, yes, we will seek to be great and honorable, but let it be by being kings and priests to God and the Father!—Unto him that loved us and washed us in his own blood, and has made us kings and priests to God and his Father, be glory, and honor,

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and dominion, and majesty, and gratitude, and salvation for ever ! O beautiful song of the redeemed assembly ! When shall we be permitted to join in that delightful employ ? How many of our godly friends and virtuous connections are singing it now ! I think I hear their celestial melodies ; we will endeavour to emulate them even here, so shall we be fitter to join the chorus when we meet them in glory ! Gratitude, love, charity, faith, trust, obedience ; these will make the best song : The life of a Christian should be a continual harmony : O Jesus, our beloved, adored Redeemer, may we live thy praise, and then whether we live or die we shall be thine, we shall rest from our labors, and our works shall follow us ; our works of faith, and labors of love shall not be forgotten by the righteous Judge ; and yet when we receive from him the crown of righteousness, we shall be disposed to take that crown and cast it at his feet, and to ascribe all our salvation to him, and to say for ever, by grace we are saved !—O let
that

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that grace teach us to deny all ungodliness, and to look for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour ; a hope that shall not deceive, and a happiness that shall transcend all our expectations and imaginations, which shall be bright as heaven, and in all its glorious effects lasting as eternity. To that eternity may we look forward, where we shall sorrow and sin no more, but shall be embraced in the bosom of love and blessedness for ever.

AFTER RECEIVING.

ACCEPT, O thou Giver of all good, our most humble and hearty thanksgivings as for all thine other mercies, so most especially for thine unspeakable gift Jesus Christ, and his divine religion : God grant we may experience these more and more, and be living witnesses of the grace of the Redeemer, in all its sufficiency to bless and to save : We rejoice in our Saviour and our King,

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the King of Zion, the Saviour of all them that believe, and by his strength we will march on and do valiantly, amidst all the frailties and afflictions of humanity : We will be of good courage because the Lord God is on our side ; we shall be more than conquerors through him that hath loved us, nor shall any thing that can befall us be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. May our relish for the divine pleasures of truth increase; may prayer, and praise, and contemplation, and hearing and reading the holy word of God, and conversation in the spirit of true friendship, on all the noblest and worthiest themes that can engage the human mind; may these be our dearest and sweetest employments : May we follow our Saviour wherever he leads us, even through disappointment or disgrace, only let us enjoy the testimony of a good conscience, and the hope of thy salvation.

WE cast ourselves and all our cares upon the power that produced us into life, that
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preserved us to this hour, that hath filled our cup, and given us so many things richly to enjoy ; persuaded that thy hand is not shortened that it cannot save, and that because the Lord is our shepherd, we shall not want : May goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our lives, and may our dwelling place be in thy house for evermore. One thing we have desired of the Lord, and that we will seek after, even to behold thy beauty in thy temple all the days of our lives, and to behold thy face in righteousness all the days of eternity, beyond the reach of chance, the power of change, the gloom of sorrow, the stain of sin, or the fear of death.

LORD, pity all the sons and daughters of affliction, lead them and us through every stage of humanity, and give us grace to finish our course with joy, having fought the good fight, and let us have the honor to receive the crown of righteousness from the hand of an applauding Saviour : Dismiss us,

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O Lord from this thy table with thy blessing, carry us home with thy love and favor, may that rest upon our families, relations and friends ; and after a life of faith and friendship, may we be permitted to live the life of heaven, which is that of vision and love for ever. We ask all through his powerful and prevailing name, who was dead and is alive, and liveth for evermore, *Amen.*

ADDRESS

ADDRESS XIX.

MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our spirits, and the object of our everlasting worship, we present ourselves before thee this morning with the most profound humility and reverence: To thee, O God, belong majesty and power, thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion ruleth over all: The most exalted beings in the universe are the creatures of thy power, and the subjects of thy supremacy; they veil their faces when they approach thy throne, it is all their glory to celebrate thy greatness, it is all their pride to execute thy will:—Also to thee, O God, belong mercy and truth, with the mild and generous names of Father and Friend! When we review the past ages

of the world, we behold the most shining displays of mercy and truth in all thy dispensations towards mankind, and with a peculiar admiration and gratitude we find thy perfections exerted to subserve the purposes of infinite benevolence, in the grand and beautiful scheme of redemption: We rejoice in the daily munificence of that providence which supplies the wants of every thing that liveth, and that although thou art the High and Lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, yet not a sparrow falls to the ground without thy notice, and the very hairs of our heads are numbered. We return thee our sincere and publick thanks, for all those expressions of loving kindness which we have known; when we look back upon our past lives through every preceding scene, we trace thy hand in the supply of our numerous necessities, in our protection from dangers, and in all the variety of our enjoyments: To thee we ascribe every blessing which has attended us; and to thee we confess ourselves indebted for every circumstance

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stance of felicity that attends us now : To thee, the Almighty Disposer of all events, to thee be all the praise that we are not this day extended upon the couch of sickness, that we are not at this hour laid at great men's doors to be spurned by the foot of pride, that we are not visited by any of those more tragical calamities which drive mankind to insanity, and which tempt them to blaspheme the God of heaven : Blessed be thy name that we are this day the living and the chearful monuments of thy bounty, surrounded with every favor that we can wish ; we call upon our souls and all that is within us to bless thy holy name ; but most of all we thank thee for our religious privileges and advantages ; blessed be thy name that the gate of the temple is yet open to receive us, unworthy as we are to enter it ; that the volume of immortal truth is yet in our hands, although we have practised its precepts so little ; we thank thee that we were born and educated in a country where Christianity has been long established, and where religious liberty

berty is known, where we are not driven
 into holes and corners of the earth to wor-
 ship thee in secret, but where we are permit-
 ted to see our teachers, to assemble ourselves
 in the face of day, and to worship the God
 of heaven and earth according to the dic-
 tates of our own consciences: Thus sur-
 rounded with every circumstance that can
 conduce to our present happiness, and fa-
 voured with every opportunity of obtaining
 the everlasting felicity of heaven, we have
 only to pray that the goodness of the Lord
 may lead us to repentance, that we may be
 more grateful for the mercies, and more
 sensible of the advantages which we have
 received, and more disposed to improve
 them all to thy glory. Let not the most
 flattering allurements the world is able to
 spread before us, ever be able to shake our
 fidelity to thee, or to seduce us from the
 path of duty; teach us on all occasions to
 conduct ourselves with dignity and honor;
 teach us in whatever state we are, therewith
 to be content; may we know both how to
 abound

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abound and how to suffer need : When surrounded by the chearful blessings of providence, suffer us not to exclaim in the spirit of impious presumption, my mountain stands so strong, I shall never be moved ; but may we receive the blessings of heaven with humility and gratitude, and enjoy them with innocent chearfulness ; and in the hour of distress, in the hour of exquisite distress, if such an hour should ever be our portion, enable us to support the dignity of the Christian character, and to recommend our most holy religion, by exhibiting to mankind a noble example of fortitude and resignation : May an honest and generous aim to promote the glory of God, and the happiness of mankind, be the fair and honorable end of all our actions ; may we be ever devising liberal things, and ever willing to do good ; and when at last our flesh and our hearts shall fail us, may we be supported by the testimony of a good conscience, and with the prospect of eternal glory : And when the last loud trumpet shall sound from heaven,
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when the pillars of creation shall be buried in ruins, when all that are in sleep shall be raised from their slumbers, and surround thy awful tribunal, in that day may we lift up our heads with joy, knowing that our redemption draweth nigh.

ALMIGHTY and Universal Parent, we beseech thee to look in mercy upon all the sons and daughters of affliction; may the best blessings of thy providence and grace descend on them all; may the darkness of error be dissipated by the mild beams of Christian truth, and may every disposition which Christianity inculcates be cultivated by all mankind: May those compassions that are neither few nor small, be mercifully afforded to all that are in distress; for although we are happy and chearful ourselves, we cannot forget the distresses of others: We pray not that adversity may be banished the earth, and uninterrupted prosperity prevail; we only pray with all submission to thy most holy will, that the mourner may be supported

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ed amidst his sorrows, and that those virtuous purposes may be answered for which adversity is sent.

INSPIRE thy servant George our King with just sentiments and good dispositions; may the Queen, and every member of the royal family be ornaments to society, and members of that community whose names are written in heaven; enlighten our counsellors, and teach our senators wisdom; may our publick affairs be ordered with that discretion, which under thy blessing can alone ensure success, and for many successive years, if consistent with thy wise and benevolent plans, may we continue to be a free and happy people: Hear us, O Lord, in heaven, thy holy place, forgive, accept, and bless us, in the name and through the mediation of Jesus Christ our Advocate with thee, Our Father, &c.

ADDRESS

ADDRESS XX.

EVENING.

OLORD God Almighty, great beyond all expression, and beyond all conception of men, of angels, of the most sublime and enlightened beings throughout the creation ! Who by searching can find thee out, who can find out the Almighty to perfection ? and yet, blessed be thy benevolence, thou hast not left thyself without a witness, for the heavens declare thy glory, and the firmament sheweth thy handy work ; day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night teacheth wisdom : Nor is there any nation where the language of thy works is not fully heard : That we were formed with capacities to view them, with capacities to understand something of thy nature, of thine attributes, of thine administration, of thy word, of the provisions thou hast made

made for our happiness, and for the happiness of all thy children ; these are sources of gratitude, O most gracious Parent, which no words can ever describe : When we behold the works of thy hand, the ways of thy providence, and the wisdom, the beauty, the benignity, that are diffused upon all, we are struck with wonder, and we are charmed with goodness ; but most of all, when we read in yet fairer lines, the astonishing display which there is made of thy divinity, by thy Son and our Saviour, in that word of grace which thou hast given to be a light to our feet, and a lamp to our paths, till we arrive at the world of love, and light, and life, and blessedness, which is beyond this barrier of time ! What indeed can we render to that most merciful and most propitious power, to whom we owe all our hopes for everlasting ; to that power we owe the discovery that we were not formed for this world, of which the fashion passeth away, of which all the pleasures are unsatisfactory, and all the prospects uncertain, but that we were formed for
a better,

a better, a nobler, and a more enduring substance, in the presence of God, where there is fulness of joy, and at thy right-hand, where there are pleasures for evermore ! It is to that power all propitious and most merciful, that we are indebted for a religion from which we can derive expectations so reviving, and so august : A religion confirmed by testimonies the truest, and replete with doctrines the most pure, with precepts the most perfect ; a religion which exhibits a pattern at once the most sacred and alluring, and offers motives the noblest and the kindest that can be conceived, whilst it presents assistances altogether divine ! These are considerations that cannot too often possess our minds, or too strongly inflame our hearts : May they become so familiar to us, that they may be the governing principles of our whole lives, and that it may be our supreme ambition to live to that God by whom we live, and to that Saviour through whom we hope to live for ever !

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IN all the dispensations of thy providence, all the losses we can sustain, all the crosses which are inflicted, all the pains of life, and all its pleasures too ; every connection which thou hast ordained, and every situation which thou hast appointed, may they all co-operate by thy blessing to make us wiser and better ; better in the sight of God, and wiser for the interest of eternity, by teaching us to consider this world as connected with another, and introductory to it ; to consider that here we are placed as in a state of trial, and ought therefore to look for an abode to come, a city which hath foundations eternal in the heavens : and by reflecting on the vanity and vexation so closely attached to this state of our probation, may we be taught more and more to improve it, and to pass through all the chances and changes connected with temporal things, forward to that serene and settled state of repose and of enjoyment, which we expect in the things eternal.

IF there are in thy presence at this time, O thou Omniscient, those who are utterly un-

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concerned about the things that belong to their peace, living without thee, without hope in this world, and without care for a better; we pray thee to arrest them in the career of folly, to awaken them to wise reflection and to sober thought; we beseech thee to shew them their error, their misery, their iniquity, and to lead them to that great Redeemer, who only can rescue them from this vain world, who only can rescue them from their corrupted nature, and at last make them partakers of a divine and eternal inheritance. May those whom thou hast inspired with these great hopes, never lose sight of the magnificent and immortal interests which thou hast set before them, but may it be their care, their study and ambition every day, to render those great hopes more secure, and to be better prepared for the purities and the joys of a state that shall never fail them.

ASSIST us in what remains of the services and sufferings of humanity; in all our ways give us to acknowledge thee, and never to
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lean to our own understanding or our own strength, which are in reality (when compared with that which alone can guide and sustain us) weakness and folly ; but may the power of God support us, and the wisdom that cannot err conduct us, through this dark and dangerous path of mortality, till we arrive where doubt, and darkness, and danger shall be no more. Give us to enjoy what thou hast afforded, with innocence, with moderation, and with cheerfulness, and to resign what thou art pleased to call for, with patience and resignation, and with a noble acquiescence in thy will, which is supreme, however our natures may recoil from a duty so just and so becoming : And however our spirits may at any time be in danger of being depressed by the sorrows of life, or intangled by its snares, may we still find the power and glory of divine principle guiding us right, and strengthening us in our goings, that our path may be like that of the morning light, which shineth more and more to the perfect day.

WE pray not only for ourselves, we would extend our best wishes and our warmest supplications in behalf of all our fellow creatures of mankind, and all our fellow Christians of every nation ; we pray for the propagation of the gospel, for the success of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, in all its brightest glories and in all its divinest power ; we pray for our native land, beseeching thee to bless, prosper, guide, and direct thy servant our Sovereign King George ; watch over his house and family, and adorn them with the graces and the virtues that will dignify their exalted stations : May the body of the people through all their different ranks be awakened to a sense of their duty, to a reverence for the Supreme Ruler and Governor of this universe, and of the great Saviour and Restorer of a lost world, to a sense of the beauty and blessedness of true religion, of the misery and folly of sin and vice, and of the necessity of a life of devotedness to God, and of usefulness to mankind. May the ministers of the gospel be inspired
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by the spirit of their master, with love to the souls of men, and with a high regard and zeal for the interest of truth, goodness, and righteousness; may they learn to know what becomes them, and may they disdain whatever is mean, and uniformly set before their people, examples of whatsoever things are praise-worthy. Deliver this country we most humbly beseech thee from those disorders, distractions, and divisions that dishonour, and disgrace it.

GOD Almighty pour down the purest influences and divinest benedictions upon this religious assembly, may we worship thee in our spirits, and in our families; always pointing out to those young persons with whom we may happen at any time to be connected, the beautiful and the blissful path of virtue and piety, that leads to heaven: Assist us at all times in all our religious performances, and may the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts be now

and ever acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer : We ask all in the name, and through the intercession of Jesus Christ our Saviour, and only Advocate with thee, Our Father, &c.

 ADDRESS XXI.

M O R N I N G.

BEFORE the presence of him who is the best, the greatest, the most perfect Being, we prostrate our spirits at this time ; we esteem such prostration our happiness ; we bend low before infinite excellence ; we rejoice to join the august assembly of worshippers around thy throne, saints and seraphims, and all the powers of heaven ; to join to theirs our best though humble note of praise and adoration : We glory in our approach to the throne of supreme compassion, from whence for ever flow forth those sublime influences that are the life, the light, and the joy of the soul : It is from God, the source of beauty, the standard of perfection, that all good is derived : Blessed

for ever be thy benevolent name, O our Father and our God, that all-unworthy and mean as we are in this state of sin and sorrow, we are yet permitted and encouraged to draw near to thee, who art the center of rest, in the humble hope of one day arising to the sweeter and the sublimer exercises and entertainments of heaven, where sin and sorrow can never shed their baneful influences, but where all is purity and peace for ever and ever ! Animated by these prospects may we possess our souls in patience, in chearfulness, in delightful affectionate endeavours to do and suffer the will of God, and amidst all the changes and chances of this state of probation, amidst all the experience we have had, or can have, of its uncertain and unsatisfactory condition ; may we have the honor and the happiness of pouring out our hearts, with all our cares and all our fears, into the bosom of him that made us, and calling thee through him who died for us, and rose again, and ever liveth to make intercession for us, our Father, our Friend,
our

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our Patron, our Portion, and our God; saying, whom have in Heaven but thee, and there is none upon earth, in all the circle of our acquaintances, of our relations, or of our dearest friends, that we can desire in comparison of thee! Of thee, O thou first fair, thou first great, thou first good, thou all-sufficient God!

WHILST thousands and ten thousands are prophaning this day by vice, or dissipating it in vanity, we will rejoice in its return; we will welcome the Sabbath of God, that day which he hath made for himself, and in which his servants have so often enjoyed the anticipations of eternal repose; and therefore we were glad when it was said unto us this morning, let us go up to the House of God to worship. We thank thee if thou hast given us any sincere relish for divine employments, if thou hast taught us to taste the sweetness, and to know the sublimity of those sacred hours that are devoted to the adoration of the Supreme, that call forth our faith in the Redeemer of the world, that inflame the

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heart with divine charity, and elevate it with celestial hope : When we look back as on this day to the resurrection of our Saviour, and think, that by that glorious event, we are begotten again to a lively hope of an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away, that we are raised to newness of life, and inspired with holiness of living, we are filled with gratitude and with praise. Truly it becomes us this day to contemplate this great event above all thy other works, and yet all thy other works are full of wonder, they are full of beauty, and sought out by all them that take pleasure therein : The verdure of the fields, the bloom of the flowers, the melody of the birds, the freshness of the morning, the lustre of the day, the reviving glories of the spring, with all the fair prospects thou art giving us of a plenteous year ; these we admire, and for these we raise a song to thee the God of the Seasons ! Thy providence in all its dispensations we adore, and when we think on what thou hast done for us, the interposi-
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tions of thy power, the directions of thy wisdom, the protections of an hand, almighty though unseen ; the pleasures of holy love and virtuous friendship, which we have been permitted to enjoy, and all the kind, all the useful, all the honorable connections which thou hast given us, with the various other blessings thou hast bestowed for our support and comfort all along ; the contemplation fills us with thankfulness and with transport ! but still above all the rest we would admire and adore that grace, by which thy other goodness is compleated and crowned ; when we look forwards beyond this vale of mortality to the high and holy hill, where saints and angels dwell, and where we hope one day, through the merits of our Saviour to dwell with them, to behold his glory, as the glory of the only Begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth ; to contemplate thee face to face, and to imbibe life, and light, and joy, from their eternal source ; O Almighty God, accept of our devoutest thanks, poor as they are, yet proceeding

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ceeding from an humble, a penitent, and by thy grace, an upright heart, thou wilt accept them. Our lives, our time, our talents, such as thou hast given, we consecrate to thee for ever; and we esteem it the highest honor and happiness we can enjoy, to serve thee in those situations in which thou hast placed us; to do, to suffer, to embrace thine unerring will, to glorify thee upon earth, and in heaven to enjoy thine immortal presence, be our high and honourable portion, and in this hope we commit ourselves to thy conduct; give us to practice patience in adversity, and moderation in prosperity, while we endeavour by thine aid to serve mankind, and to promote the peace, the satisfaction, and the edification of all around us: And when we have filled up the purposes of thy grace in this state of trial, we will follow the great Conductor of his people through the valley of the shadow of death, onwards where the wicked cease from troubling, and where the weary are at rest for ever, and where we shall enjoy the society of
of

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of the pious and the virtuous, who have gone before us, who were dear to us as our own souls, who have escaped the snares and sorrows of mortality, who are now rejoicing that their warfare is accomplished, and perhaps looking forward with pleasure and rapture to that hour that shall conduct us to the same abodes of love and friendship everlasting.

WE pray not for ourselves only, we pray for all mankind, we rejoice in every degree of good, of holiness, and of happiness, that is to be seen upon the face of the earth; and we mourn over the degeneracy of the fallen race of Adam, beseeching thee to send forth thy light and thy truth, to lead the nations to the knowledge of the Lord, and to make them joyful in the salvation of Jesus Christ; and wherever that blessed and sacred name is named, may men depart from iniquity, and adorn the doctrine of their Saviour by a life and conversation, in some degree becoming their high calling: Deliver, we beseech

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seech thee, the nations that sit in darknes,
 and that groan under tyranny ; may truth
 and righteousness prevail : Bless thy ser-
 vant our sovereign King George, with the
 Queen, and all their family ; may they be
 all under the protection of thy providence,
 and the guardianship of thy grace ; and may
 the great interests of law, of liberty, of the
 Protestant religion, and of true religion, be
 promoted by those that occupy places of
 rank and power : Make them truly great by
 making them good : Pour out a spirit of
 penitence and prayer, of sobriety and seri-
 ousness, of recollection and thought, upon
 all ranks of people. Awaken the ministers
 of religion to a most serious, earnest, zea-
 lous, Christian concern, to recall the minds
 and hearts of men to the consideration of
 those things which belong to their everlast-
 ing peace : Endue them with true Christian
 eloquence, and may they esteem it their
 greatest glory to promote the triumphs of the
 cross of their Saviour : We thank thee who
 hast brought us together at this time, and
 we

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we pray that our lives, and the lives of those we love and value, may be dignified by thy friendship, and consecrated to thy glory; and that we and all our fellow worshippers may be under the holy inspirations of that divine religion which they and we profess, and of the spirit of that exalted Redeemer, in whose name they worship, in whose name we worship, and through whose merits and mediation alone we desire and expect acceptance from thee, Our Father, &c.

A D D R E S S

A D D R E S S X X I I .

E V E N I N G .

ADORABLE Father, Eternal Friend of the pious and the humble, such may we all be in every situation and in every stage of life, devoted to our Maker whilst we enjoy ourselves; conscious of the corruptions and of the weaknesses of human nature, and struck with a sense of our dependence upon God, and of our obligations to his infinite goodness.

* FOR all the marks of thy loving kindnesses and tender mercies which we of this
con-

* THE editor has been informed since this work went to press, that this was the concluding address of the reverend

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congregation in particular, have received ever since we met together, in all the variety of circumstances and situations in which we have been placed ; O accept most gracious Lord, and benignant Parent, our profoundest and our most permanent praise ! through whatever circumstances, or whatever casualties we have passed together or apart, we believe

rend gentleman first mentioned in the preface, when he resigned the care of that church, in which he had laboured upwards of twenty years : The piety and fervor of this parting benediction, will be a sufficient excuse for any redundancy of expression.

THE editor having been favored with a copy of the latter part of that gentleman's farewell sermon, delivered at the same time, thinks no apology need be made to readers of taste and sensibility, for inserting it here by way of note:

AFTER a long discourse on the dissipation of the age, and having mentioned his declining health, which caused him to resign his publick ministry, he proceeded thus :

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believe that they were the effects of unerring wisdom, and unbounded goodness! In every scene of life, and under every distress, we are happy that the Lord God Omnipotent reigns, all benevolent and all merciful! It is also the deepest ground of our gratitude and praise, that we have been taught to believe in thy Son, whom thou
hast

“ I PROFOUNDLY thank you for your kindness to me,
“ you have in truth been very liberal to me as your minister, may the Lord reward you an hundred fold :
“ I thank you yet more for every mark of your esteem and confidence, which you have shewn me as your friend, which indeed I was, and am, and shall ever be, but most of all because it was the most important to your salvation, I thank you for your unwearied forbearance towards my deficiencies and failings, and for receiving the word of exhortation freely :
“ Indeed I should not do you justice, if I did not embrace this opportunity of bearing you witness, that candor marks your general character, that your religious sentiments are serious, but without bigotry, and that whilst you hold the essential principles of the gospel, you allow for every difference of opinion not inconsistent with a religious life : May you always preserve
a spi-

hast sent to save and to bless mankind ; we thank thee for the instructions of his divine religion, for all those beautiful precepts, and all those glorious examples which that religion exhibits ; we thank thee if thou hast inspired any of this congregation, or any of this audience with a vital faith in him, with a deep respect for his commands,

and

“ a spirit so generous and so worthy ! A few words to the
 “ youth of this congregation ; may I presume to say, that
 “ I consider them as my children in the Lord ; I had al-
 “ most said, I am proud of the honor, I will say it if
 “ you adhere to your choice, if you hold fast the profes-
 “ sion of your faith, without wavering, and grow in grace
 “ as you grow in years, you shall prove desirable and
 “ useful in life, you shall continue to adorn religion, to
 “ delight your parents and friends, and to enjoy the peace
 “ of God, which passeth all understanding : Permit me
 “ to add, that you were always obliging and affectionate
 “ to your spiritual father ; by your perseverance and im-
 “ provement in goodness—(forgive me if I am not quite
 “ equal to the theme and the occasion, they rather over-
 “ whelm me ; but let me add, your perseverance and
 “ improvement in goodness) will soothe him whilst he
 “ lives, and confirm on his last bed an expectation he

and with a firm reliance on his exceeding great and precious promises; we render thee our most hearty thanksgivings for the fair and transcending prospects with which thou hast animated any of us, respecting that great and that happy immortality after which we are this day breathing, as the most resplendent and delightful objects of our hopes:
We

“ sometimes indulges, that when, he beholds you at the
 “ tribunal of God, he may have the happiness of pre-
 “ senting you perfect in Christ Jesus.

“ THERE are other young persons of whom I once
 “ thought well, but whom now, alas, I wish to forget;
 “ may he that of the very stones could raise up chil-
 “ dren to Abraham, create in them clean hearts, and
 “ renew right spirits within them.

“ As to those in the maturity of nature, and those in its
 “ decay, who are yet alienated from the life of God,
 “ it grieves me to think I cannot have the comfort of
 “ leaving them in a state of safety; their danger is ex-
 “ treme, nothing can deliver them but a speedy repen-
 “ tance, and an early application to piety: Merciful Fa-
 “ ther! help and save them.

“ To

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We thank thee if thou hast endued us with any honorable and any amiable affections to mankind, particularly to those with whom we are more intimately connected : We rejoice in the happiness of the creation of God, we rejoice in the belief of his universal and eternal administration, the administration of a Father ! May we ever entertain the most dig-

“ To you my Christian and dearly beloved friends, I
 “ would only say, be steadfast, immoveable, always
 “ abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye
 “ know your labour shall not be in vain in the Lord : It
 “ is my prayer to God that you may experience much
 “ satisfaction in your families, much success in your af-
 “ fairs, sacred serenity in the vale of years, and peace in
 “ your latter end ! I leave you and yours in the ever-
 “ lasting arms of mercy, and I commend you to the
 “ word of God’s grace, which is able to keep you from
 “ falling, and to give you an inheritance amongst all them
 “ that are sanctified ! Let us pray for one another, what
 “ should hinder us, though absent in body, to meet in
 “ spirit at the footstool of our common Father and God,
 “ where we have so often personally met with benefit
 “ and pleasure, there let our hearts unite in fervent de-
 “ votion, and in the aspirations of a Christian piety,

dignified comprehension of thy character, of thy works, of thy ways ; all beautiful and all worthy of their author ! Above all the rest, we render this day our sincerest acknowledgments for the unspeakable gift of Jesus Christ and his unparalleled religion, the wisdom of God, and the power of God to salvation ; upon that never-failing ground we build our hopes, and actuated by its divine and sanctifying principles, we would go on our way rejoicing, through an uniform course of piety and virtue.

To thee our Father, and to thy Son our Saviour, we do most devoutly and most af-

“ anticipating by divine faith that blissful period, when
 “ we shall spread our wings and fly upwards to yon
 “ bright temple, where we shall rejoin one another be-
 “ yond the fear of separation, renew our wonted com-
 “ munion with infinite advantage, feel our mutual at-
 “ tachment closer, as we draw nearer to the central
 “ throne of love, and to say all in one word, adore and
 “ triumph together with the innumerable company that
 “ encircle that throne for ever !—till then, farewell !—
 “ farewell !”

fection-

fectionately recommend this Christian society : O never leave them, never forsake them, but when we are parted from one another, may it still be with a supporting and with a transporting hope of meeting again in that superior region where perfection and peace for ever dwell : To thy guardian care and divine inspiration, at this time, would we commit them all, and more particularly those beloved, for whose salvation hereafter, and improvement here, we will ever pour forth the most fervent wish of our souls : O establish them upon that honourable ground upon which they stand, and never suffer them to fall away into folly and wickedness ; keep them by thy mighty power, through faith unto salvation, and may the prospect of a glorious and immortal inheritance raise them far above the low standard of modern behaviour, to something sublime and glorious ; and at the same time may all their attainments be ever accompanied by the ornament of an humble and modest temper, and demeanor, walking circumspectly, and calling

forth upon every necessary occasion, those great immortal principles which they have imbibed of the religion of Jesus, of that best dispensation of heaven, and that highest standard of excellence; may they never, never fall, and may all that behold their conversation in Christ Jesus, glorify their Father who is in heaven, and contribute their kindest and their wisest endeavours, to promote a piety so amiable, and a virtue so excellent. O pity those that are fallen, draw them from the miry clay of corruption, set their feet upon a rock, and establish their goings, while their parents and their friends are taught to rejoice in that goodness, in which they ought still to put their trust; for there is nothing impossible with Omnipotence, and to Infinite Benevolence, there is nothing too great or too kind: Those in declining years we would particularly cast upon thine all-supporting spirit, and thine all-protecting providence; beseeching thee in the hour of decay, in the day of weakness, and in the night of death, to sustain,

tain, to cheer, to elevate the drooping mind, and to give the upright heart that anticipation of immortality, which will make it superior to the evils of time, though not superior to the feelings of friendship: O what can we render for the pleasures of friendship which we have enjoyed, with the sons and daughters of wisdom! What shall we render to thy providence for the union which did subsist between us, and which has been the source of so many pure and sublime satisfactions: O charming foretaste of immortal friendship! O delightful prospect of that celestial union which shall never fail! when we shall behold the face of God in righteousness, and see one another brighten into the beauty and felicity of angels! May all the great, general, comprehensive, immortal principles of piety, take the deepest root in our hearts; and when we shall shut our eyes upon this transient scene, in which we have tasted joy, and in which we have tasted sorrow, may we open our intellectual eye upon that immortal beatific vision where
sorrow

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sorrow shall never enter, and where joy shall be, like its source, everlasting. — O pity the thoughtless, recal them for thy mercies sake; and accept O most benevolent Father, the Fountain of benevolence, accept our devoutest acknowledgments for all the kindness which thy benignant spirit has put into the hearts of thy slated worshippers in this place towards thine unworthy servant; O that in the reflections of future life we may be enabled to think of each other with that just regard, with that glowing kindness, and with that transporting hope, which is full of immortality. Happy day! when we shall meet beyond the grave in the abodes of rest eternal, when we shall behold the vision of God and the Lamb, and from that vision receive new irradiations of life, new degrees of affection, and greater advances in purity, peace and joy! Heavenly Father, hear these warmest aspirations of the heart, and reward this people, O reward them an hundred fold for all their unwearied kindness, for all their generous regard, for all their amiable
 atten-

attention to thy servant, and for all their pleasing docility in attending on thy holy word; may it be to them in very deed, the seed of immortality, and when they pass through the fire, and when they pass through the water, let not the fire kindle upon them, nor the waters overflow them: O reward these our beloved friends by peace on earth, by comfort in friendship, by joy in their families, and by all the sweetest and sublimest virtues that religion can inspire, till they arrive there, where their recompence shall be infinite, and their joy eternal; and our friendship formed in the days of mortality, shall be never disunited, never clouded by one moment of disgust or dismay: Happy, beautiful, and blessed scene of immortal friendship, of immortal joy! and when we are permitted to kneel at the universal throne, then may we hear the applauding voice of our common Saviour, of our common Redeemer, and so pass to the third heaven, to the beatific vision near to the throne of the great Eternal, where we shall forget all our
for-

forrows, escape from all our sins, be forever illuminated from the parent of mercies and of perfections, and follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth, through the ever fair and blooming regions of immortality.

O FORGIVE our sins, hear our prayers, forgive all that has been wanting in virtue, and accept our humblest thanks for all that may have been laudable in our tempers or characters: We deny ourselves, we claim no merit, we entertain no hope but in thine infinite mercy, as that has been displayed through Jesus Christ, and made to us a source of everlasting consolation. And now we cast ourselves, our cares, our families, our friends, our interests, and the grand interests of mankind, all on thine universal benevolence, and thine eternal grace: We part in hope, we rejoice in the faith of the glory of God, and it is our devoutest desire, our warmest prayer at thy merciful throne, that we may meet together in the circles of eternal love, to weep no more, to suffer no more,

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more, to part no more, but through eternal ages to pour forth the fullest strains of gratitude and praise, to him who brought us together at first, who supported us all along, and in whom we have been taught and encouraged to entertain unshaken hopes; hopes high as immortality, and unfading as eternity.


IN all the future scenes of life through which we are ordained to pass, may it appear that perfection is our object, that God is our beloved Father, that Jesus is our admired Model and Redeemer, that heaven is our great invariable pursuit, and that our gratitude to thee is eternal, as that throne from which proceeds every good and every perfect gift. If our hearts could suggest a feeling higher or better for these our dear friends in Christ Jesus, we would pour it forth in transporting pleasure at thy seat, where mercy and goodness ever dwell. But O Lord, we would not forget to confess before thee, all the failings of our lives, all
the

the frailties of our nature, and all the marks of folly or of evil that we may have discovered towards thee, or towards one another, or respecting ourselves since we came together: God be merciful to us sinners, through the mediation of that Saviour whose name we have the honor to bear, and in whose name we would always offer up our prayers, charmed by the discoveries of his infinite love, allured by the virtue of his most amiable character, and relying on the power of that omnipotent Spirit of wisdom, grace and truth, which he hath promised to lead his followers, and to comfort them through all ages: Through his name, through his mediation, we put up our prayers, on his administration of the affairs of this world we rely, for all that is good, for all that is kind to us, and to our friends: We trust that thy candid and charitable eye overlooking what is amiss, and beholding what is good, and which thou also hast implanted within us, wilt accept the humble offering up of our prayers, of our admiration,

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ration, of our everlasting ascriptions to thee, Holy Father, through the name and intercession of Jesus Christ our only Saviour, and most worthy Advocate. Dismiss us now with thy blessing, carry us through the scenes of active life, and through all our sufferings, with thy supporting hand; may its last hours be its brightest and its noblest, and only inferior to that transcendant state of gratitude, perfection, and happiness, which awaits us beyond the grave, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour, *Amen.*

THE END.



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tion, of our everlasting relations to thee,
 Holy Father, through the same and inter-
 cession of Jesus Christ our only Saviour,
 and most worthy Advocate. O, that we may
 with thy blessing, carry us through the scenes
 of active life, and through all our afflictions,
 with thy supporting hand, may we at last
 be brought to thy glorious and noble, and only in-
 ferior to that transcendent land of glory,
 perfection, and happiness, which awaits us
 beyond the grave, through Jesus Christ, our
 Saviour, Amen.

The End.



